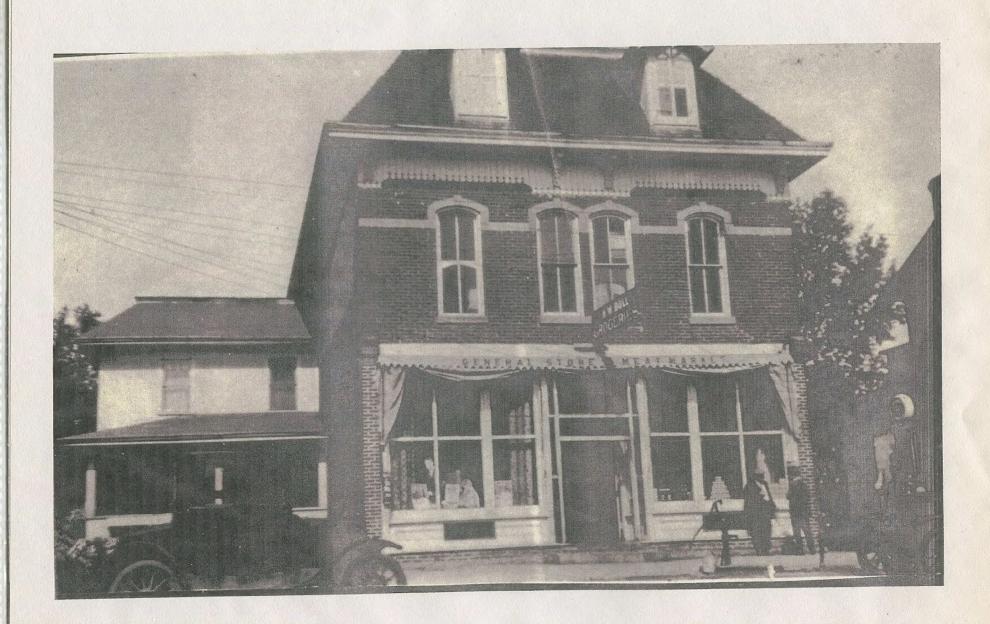




Heinie Boels parents







## IKING GERTIFICATE STATE OF JOWA DES MOINES

This Certifies that Selma Stadtmuller having presented satisfactory testimonials of good character and evidence of scholarship and professional training by passing examinations in the branches required by law and by graduation from the Hormal Training Course of the Monticello High School is authorized to teach in any public school of the State of Towa for a period of two years from the date hereof, subject to registration as required by law!

MUSIC



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EXAMINAT	TON R	ECORD	
ARITHMETIC	96	PHYSIOLOGY	90
GEOGRAPHY	90	CIVICS	95
GRAMMAR	92	ECONOMICS	92
U.S.HISTORY	91	PHYSICS	89

NOMICS	92	1
SICS EBRA_	95	A

AGRICULTURE	88
HOME ECONOMICS_	92
MANUAL TRAINING	
AVERAGE	91

DATE ISSUED Augill, 1820

Co. Supt. Jones County

Record & Regista

This Certificate is Registered and Made Valid For

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& Statimuller





Orescent City, La. April, 14th, 1921.

Dear Boll;

Guess that you think that I have forgotten you by my not writing you sooner, but sonny boy, its like this. You see I have been so very busy with the little kid's big sisters that I have been unable to find very much time for any other diversions. But since I have been able to land a real large sucker, I can well afford to drop you a line occasionally.

I have read with much interest your letters to friend Barker, in fact I think that all of the boys in the house have enjoyed reading them as much as I have, and I further think that all intend writing you just as soon as they can become settled for that length of time. Really, sonny boy, I was so sorry to learn of your father's death as I know that it was hard to part with him, but I trust that you will make the very best of things as they stand and not get disheartened. You, no doubt have a little more weight on your shoulders now and I guess that you will not be quite as free as you formally were, but you are man enough to stand by the guns, I know.

A couple weeks ago, we all went out to De Jeahns to a little dance and I met the wonderful Dorothy, who used to call you up so very much. Boy, you missed the time of your life, when you left with out having met her. Honest, she is exceedingly pretty, and is very winsome in her disposition and manners. She asked me numerous questions about you and told me that she was going to write you with out fail. Marie also told me that she was going to write you, in fact she called me up one Sunday morning not along while ago and told me that she wanted your address as she had already written you a letter and wanted to post same that day. I told her to address you Dixon, Iowa, and I thought that you would get it as I knew of no other address that you would receive your mail from. Did she write you? Well, you should have been at the hop, as I am sire that you would have enjoyed yourself very much. as I think the entire bunch did. Bythe way, Mr Ahean, has rolled me for my girl and Quinn and Teresa have had afalling out. I do not think that they have made up as yet, but you never can tell how long those things will last. I trust it will not last long as the poor boy is in every body's way when he has no girl to go see every night as he used to.





Lonis
Confirmation
April 2, 1939

## NEW ORLEANS REFINING COMPANY, INC.

#### 233 BROADWAY NEW YORK

TELEPHONES: BARCLAY 8540-8541-8542-8543

CABLE ADDRESS: DETWAL NEW YORK

May 31, 1921.

Mr. Henry W. Boll, Dixon, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed we beg to hand you check in the amount of \$20.42 in payment of balance due in the Provident Fund amounting to £5.4.10 at rate of exchange \$3.89\frac{1}{4}.

This payment is effected in acknowledgment of receipt from you of original and duplicate receipts for this pound sterling value.

Yours very truly,

Accountan

WJB-BK

ENCL.

## H. W. BOLL

HARDWARE CONGOLEUM STOVES RADIOS



#### PRINCETON, IOWA

Public Debt as of Jan 8th, 1936 Cash balance on hand

30,540,941.089 2,176,394,549 28,364,546,540

Funds included in the p	uolic debt an		
which are returna RFC 2,2	76,000,000	returement:	
Farm Loan Corp . 9	00,000,000	and the state of t	
Commodity Credit C 2	22,000,000		
Railroad Laans	80,000,000		
Fed. Dep. Insurande 1 Leans to States, Min 2	50,000,000	- 1	1,304,000,000
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Expeniditures for relie			
	67,000,000 16,000,000		
FERA 2,5	60,000,000		
	48,000,000		
Surplus Relief Food	73,000,000 80,000,000		
Public Highways (Fed)	00,000,000	5	,904,000,000
Debt when Hoover left o	ffice	: 19	,487,009,766
Debt when Hoover left o	ffice	: 19	,487,00 <b>9</b> ,766
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Caredit in stabilization fund for gold devaluation kept in seperate account with credit to it of \$1,800,000,000.

## TEACHER'S CONTRACT.

#### CONTRACT BETWEEN BOARD AND TEACHER.

This Contract between as alma stadtmeely a teacher
of Scold County, Iowa, and B. L. Morgan
president board of directors of the Independent houst, no
of Prencetonin the County
of State of Iowa, WITNESSETH:
That the said Miss Stadtmoeller agrees to teach
the public school in Princeton of said district
for the term of 36 weeks, commencing on the day of
1994, and well and faithfully to perform the duties of teacher
in said school, according to the law and the rules legally established for the government
thereof, including the exercise of due diligence in the preservation of the school buildings,
grounds, furniture, apparatus, and other school property.
•
735 (D)
In consideration of said services, the said BL. Mongaus
is president of the board, in behalf of said School brand
grees to pay the said Miss Stadtmoeller the sum of
or 9 school months, at the end of Cach Musch
or school months, at the end of the same
WITNESS our hands, this 5" day of Sept 1969 4
Selmas Stadtonielle.
Teacher.
Stmoran
President.

## Teacher's Contract.

Filed in my office 190

#### The Farmer's Institute



The Farmer's Institute was an annual gathering in Princeton during the 1920's. It included displays of corn, potatoes, oats, clover seed, and vegetables raised by the men during the year.

For the ladies there were displays of quilts, embroidery work, and other handwork. Also, there were displays of breads, cakes, and cookies with prizes given for the best of each class.

The highlight of the evening always included a three act play directed by the principal of the High School, with parts played by many young people of the community. Princeton would have their play on Friday night and LeClaire would give theirs on Saturday night. Some of the players included Jasper and Rachel Morgan, Ethel and Elma Peitscher, Mervin Fletcher, May Brown, Westley, Clover and Alverta Schmalz, Warren and Leola Hamilton, Mildred Strong, Bessie Norton, Orville Stewart, Art and Rosie Williams and many others. The LeClaire plays included Marguerite Hogge, Claude and Rose Brown, Inez Hulet, Lee Spear and many others.

In 1932 the Institute was moved to LeClaire and the plays became one act plays put on by different Townships, such as Allen's Grove, Butler, and Cleona. We think about 1934 was the end of the Farmer's Institute. Perhaps the depression was one cause.

Between the acts of the three act plays Warren Hamilton and Wesley Schmalz had a comedy act which was always well received.

#### The Roller Rink



OUR PLACE

Every Saturday afternoon or night the young people of Princeton could go to the skating rink in what is now Miller's property. (422 River Drive) John W. Fletcher and John F. Wilson had a huge nickelodeon installed up on a stage in the west end of the hall and it would belt out tunes so that everyone could skate. It was a wonderful pastime for a quarter! Only wooden wheeled skates were allowed and everyone had a good time.

#### The Showboat



The Show Boat was a popular attraction as it played in Cordova, Princeton, LeClaire and Port Byron. They carried their own crew and players and would tie up at the warehouse in the south end of Princeton, where they use to put on their plays. They came through this area once each summer season and were well received.

-"Tib" Stewart

#### THE FARMERS INSTITUTE

These plays started in 1907 and continued through the 1930's. In the beginning it consisted of Princeton, Butler, LeClaire, Lincoln, Pleasant Valley and Davenport Townships.

The plays were held two nights -Princeton one night and LeClaire the other. See copy of a typical program and cast.

Mildred Holst and Hilda Strichter was president and Vice President consecutively of the Woman's Division for a number of years.

Men's Division officers were Herbert Sawyer (superintendent of grain), Clarence Bowker (President), Hugo Shierk (secretary). and Wesley Schmalz the treasurer. Meetings were held in Peitschers Hall and later in the Community Hall.

-Bessie SkixXXXXXXXXX

#### THE GRASSY LANE CLUB

In 1918, Alvena Schmalz organized, assisted by Edith Barker, a home demonstration agent, the "Grassy Lane Group".

This was during the era of one room schools. Family gatherings, group singing and suppers were held at the "Grassy Lane School". Teachers also presented a program. At that time Mary Mess of Princeton was the teacher. The ladies started having monthly meetings with a lunch being served. They made dress forms during the youth of the organization - learning how to make their own clothes. The club was quite active when Rachel (Morgan)Rasche and Bessie Sierk were teachers there. Olga Kerr and Anna Graham are no doubt the only original members.

Ethel Oakes would drive her horse and buggy to meetings and pick up people along the way, followed by her yellow airdale dog.

At one time, the teacher was expected to have entertainment each month. It was finally cut down to about three or four a school year.

- Bessie Sierk

1986

Return Which ... Beisie Siech .

## **PROGRAM**

of the

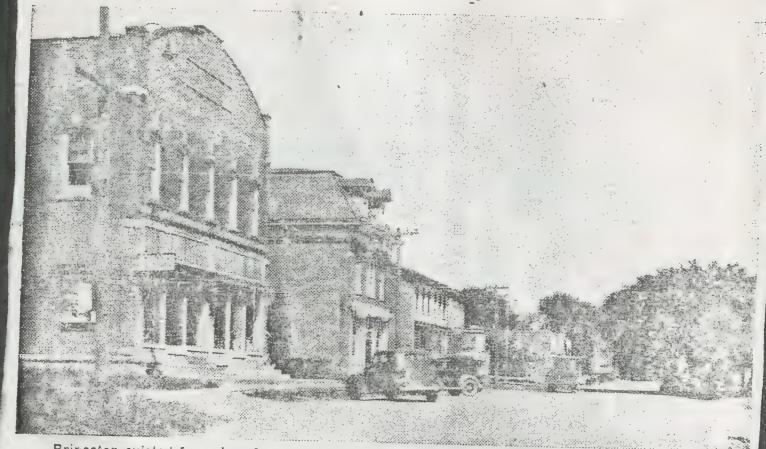
Twenty-fourth Annual

## FARMERS' INSTITUTE



## Princeton

1930 'S



Princeton existed for only a few years as an unorganized village, for it was incorporated in January, 1857, slightly more than three years after its plan was drawn on Dec. 22. 1853, by Robert and George H. Bell and John Culbertson. The first election was held in March, 1857, and Samuel Porter was chosen mayor.

A rapid growth seems to have led to the early incorporation of the town, for history records a population of about 500 persons in 1858 and 1,000 the following year. Now the town numbers 373, according to latest census figures.

Saw and planing mills and grist mills were among its early industries and for a time it seemed that with the river at its dooryard the town would assume much importance in the county's commercial life. But many plans, among them power development on the Wapsie, went a-glimmering, and historians admirted 20 years later that prophecies of 1860 had not been fulfilled.

W. A. Haines is mayor of the city now. Other officers are H. C. Baxter, clerk; Hugh Johnson, assessor: Dr. George Cusick, health officer and treasurer; and F. F. Richberg, H. E. Brown, Cipulation, Cipulation of the city now. Other officers are H. C. Baxter, clerk; Hugh Johnson, Lund. Frank Norton and David Paul, councilmen



#### PRINCETON COMMUNITY CLUB

Merlin Boll has one of the finest grocery stores to be maintained in a small town. The following is a 1928 story about his building on River Drive in Princeton.

Princeton Community Club opens a new auditorium to the public Thursday evening, November 20th, 1928.

Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock the new Community Club house in Princeton will be opened to the public, Festivities beginning with a Chicken Supper. Preporations are all complete. There's no doubt as to what is to be had for the people of town and country have donated 200 chickens, 10 bushels of potatoes, 150 pies and all the other supper "goodies" and if anyone is a good figurer, he should know how many people may be fed.

This will be followed by a program at which A.E. Carroll, Davenport, is the principal speaker. There will be carnival features and then a dance for which "Tony's Iowans" will play.

Now why is it that Princeton is doing this? It is because of the big development of a community spirit that just a few months ago organized the Community Building Company and purchased the three story building, the erection of which was begun about 1903 by Dr. John Knox. Because of illness and financial problems, the structure was never completed.

Consequently 50 farmers and business men got together, took over the building and organized a company, and put \$10,000. into the project with splendid results. Don Haring was given the contract for a two story building with a substantial basemnet with a cement floored dining room and kitchen.

On the first floor are two fine store buildings, one of which is already rented to H.W. Boll, who will move his grocery stock from another building.

The second floor gives a Community Auditorium with finely equipped stage and an elegant dance floor. The room is finished with a hard wood floor, beamed ceiling, dark oak woodwork, side pull curtains with an overhang of Spanish velour. The interior is artistic and will meet the requirements of a large clientele.

Since the entire building is 46 X 76 feet an idea of its \*pleakidx splendid service is arrived at. Officers are President Herman Kroeger, Vice President A.H. Schmalz, Treasurer William Mess, Directors Jo Dee Croy, Henry Holst and Frank McKnight.

- Bessie Sierk

1912



# FIFTY FOURTH ANNUAL District REBEKAH CONVENTION

OF

CLINTON, JACKSON and SCOTT COUNTIES

## Community Hall

Princeton, Iowa

May 17, 1954

HOSTESS

ECHO REBEKAH LODGE No. 104

Princeton, Iowa

Convention Officers

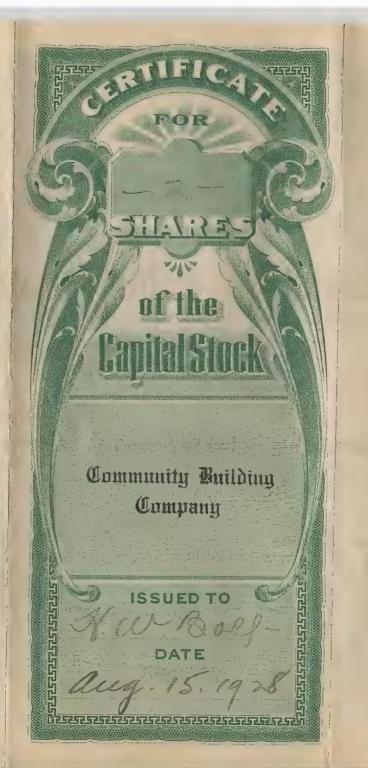
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Vice President	Jan Turi Cu	110125
Vice President	lvina Sc	hmalz
Secretary	Reccia	Signic
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Treasurer	Rhodail	Helble
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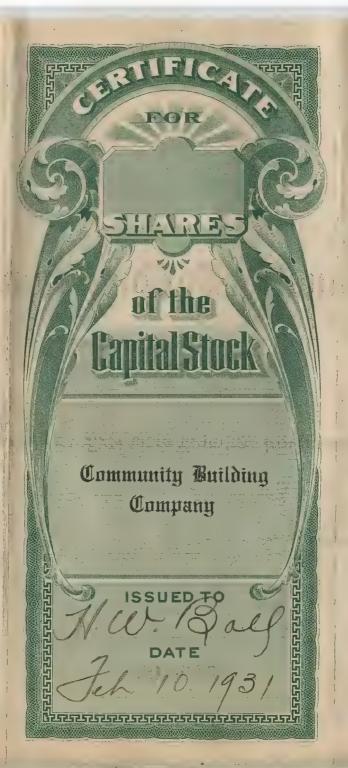






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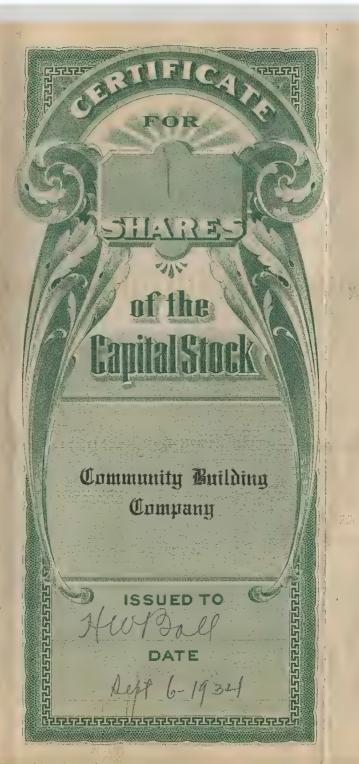
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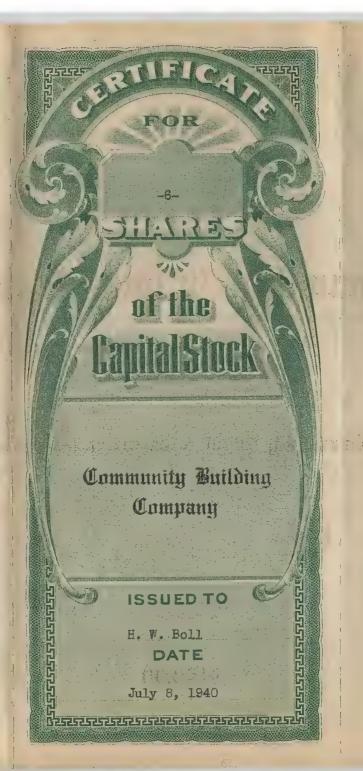
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6 phory - H. W. Bolf Number Shares Community Building Company CAPITAL STOCK \$10,000.00 is the owner of H. W. Boll --- Shares of the Capital Stock of Community Building Company, fully paid and non-assessable, Aransferable only on the books of this Corporation in person or by Attorney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and its Corporate Seal to be hereunto affixed at Princeton, Iowa, this 8th day of July AD 10

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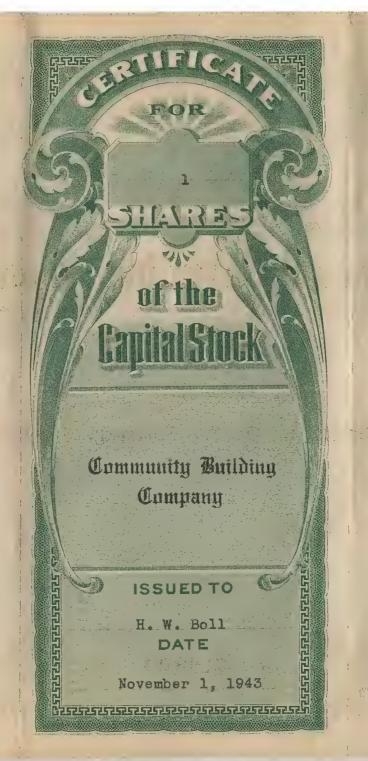






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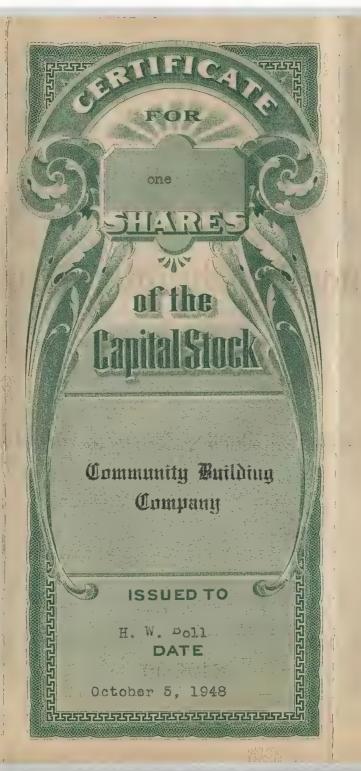
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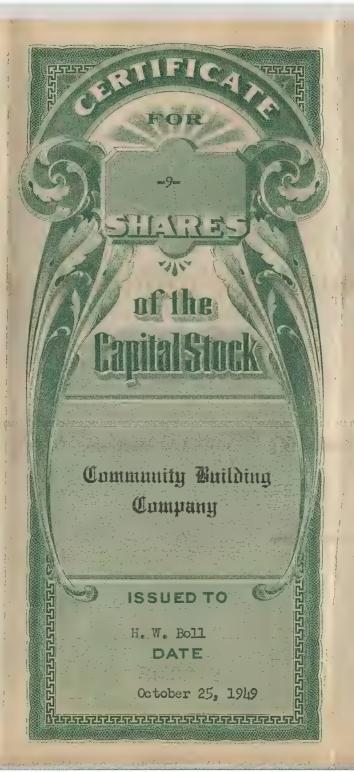




Shares Number Community Building Company CAPITAL STOCK \$10,000.00 is the owner of Shares of the Capital Stock of Community Building Company, fully paid and non-assessable, transferable only on the books of this Corporation in person or by Morney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and its Corporate Leal to be hereunto affixed at Princeton, lowa, this 25th day of October AD 1949 at Princeton, Iowa,

In presence of substitution in the premises.

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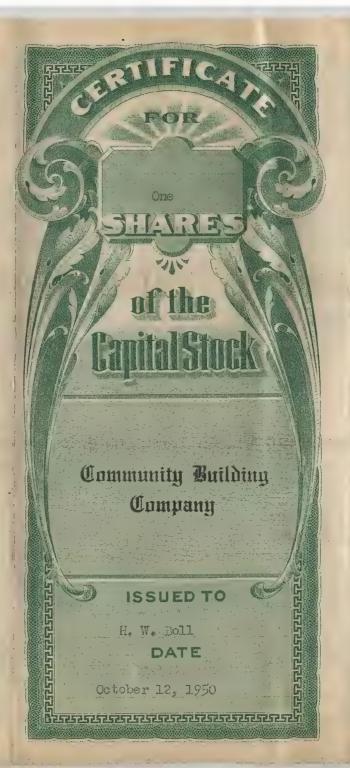






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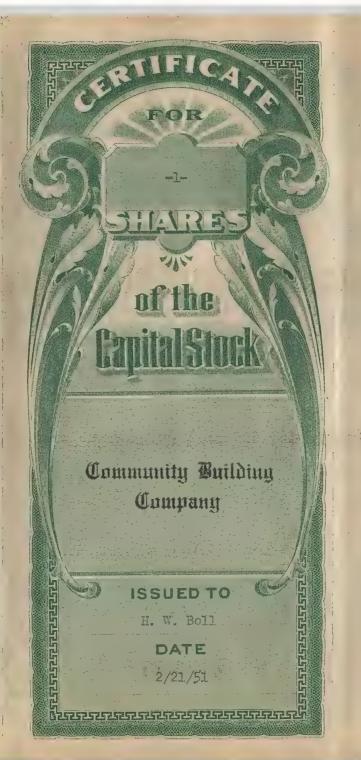






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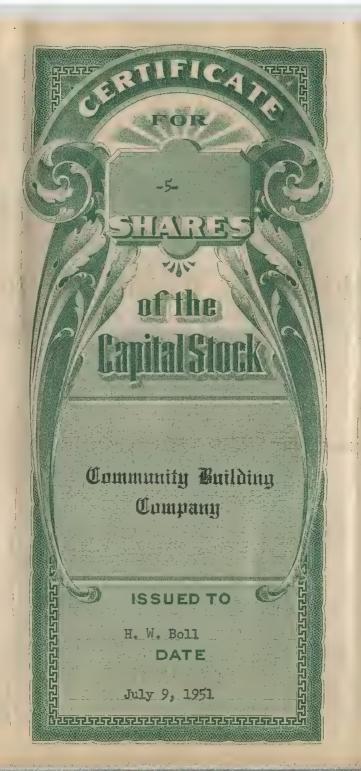
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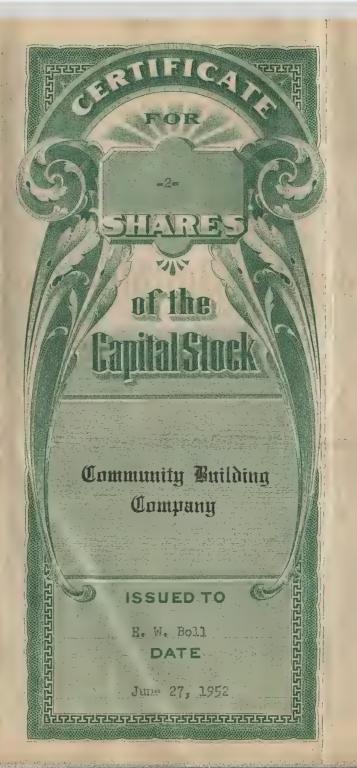
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Shares Number Community Building Company CAPITAL STOCK \$10,000.00 is the owner of Shares of the Capital Stock of Community Building Company, fully paid and non-assessable, transferable only on the books of this Corporation in person or by Attorney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and its Corporate Seal to be hereunto, affixed at Princeton, Iowa, this 27 day of June A.D. 1952 FULL PAR VALUE OF THIS DERTIFICATE HAS BEEN PAIC MIGHT & W. M. JACKSON, CHICAGO

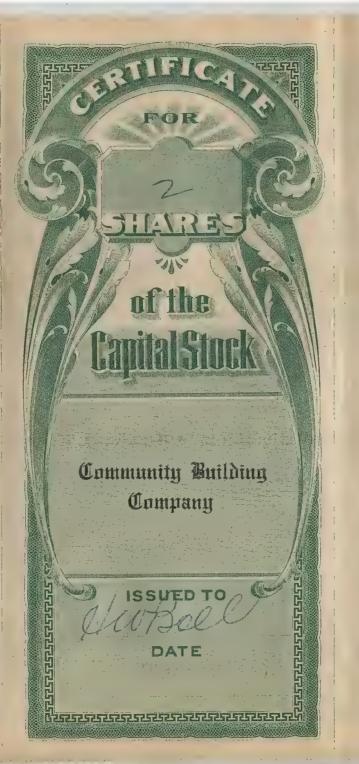
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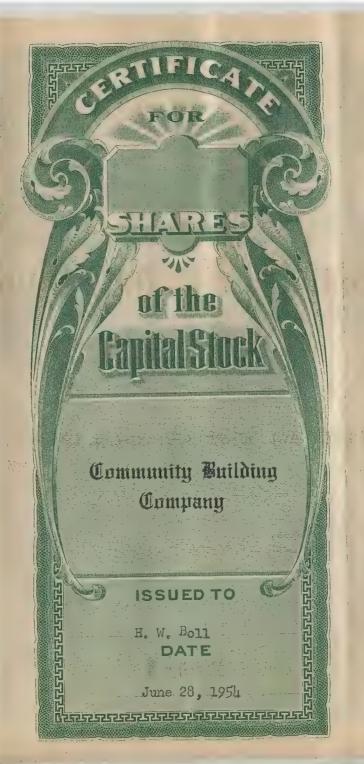






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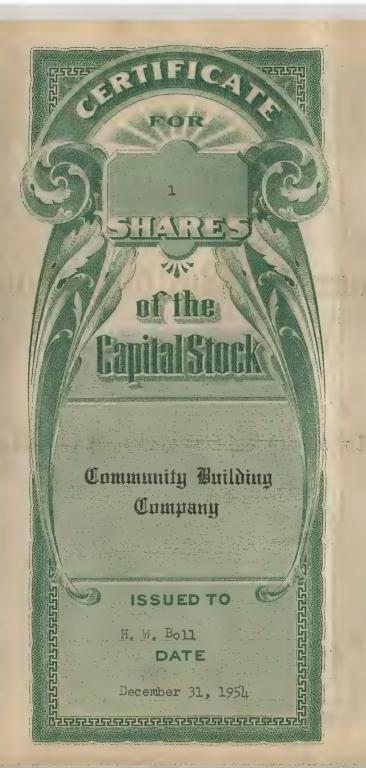




INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF Shares Number Community Building Company CAPITAL STOCK \$10,000.00 is the owner of H. W. Boll Shares of the Capital Stock of Community Building Company, fully paid and non-assessable, transferable only on the books of this Corporation in person or by Attorney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and its Corporate Seal to be hereunto affixed at Princeton, Iowa, this 16th day of October A.D. 1954



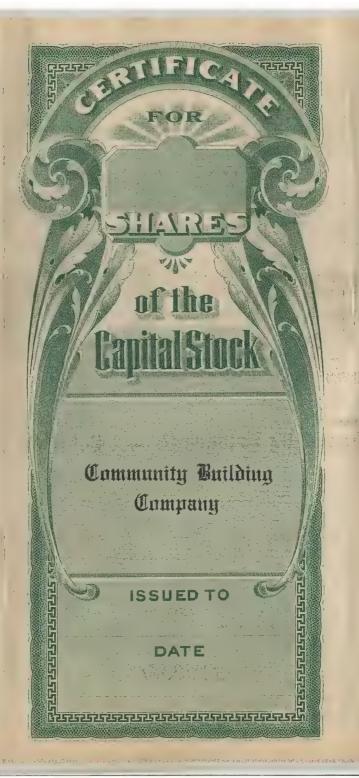
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Shares Namber Community Building Company APITAL STOCK \$10,000.00 is the owner of H. W. Boll Shares, of the Capital Stock of Community Building Company, fully paid and non-assessable, transferable only on the books of this Corporation in person, or by Attorney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be signed by its duly authorized officers and its Corporate Seal to be hereunto affixed at Princeton, Iowa, this 21st day of January AD 1956 FULL PAR MALLE OF THIS DERTIFICATE HAS BEEN PAID TO THE CORPORATION IN ...

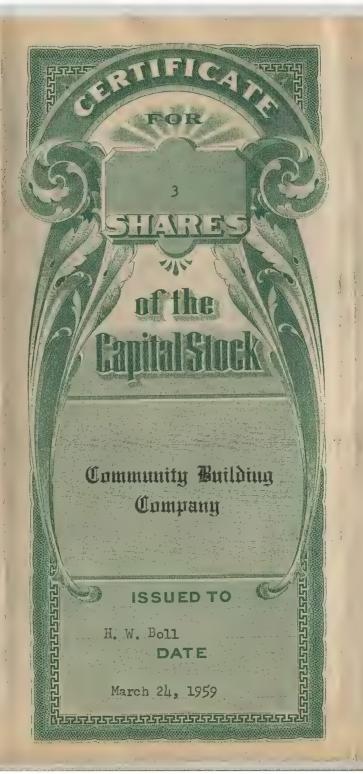
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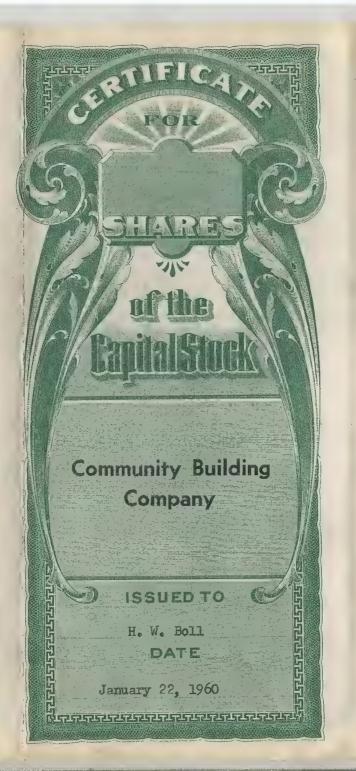
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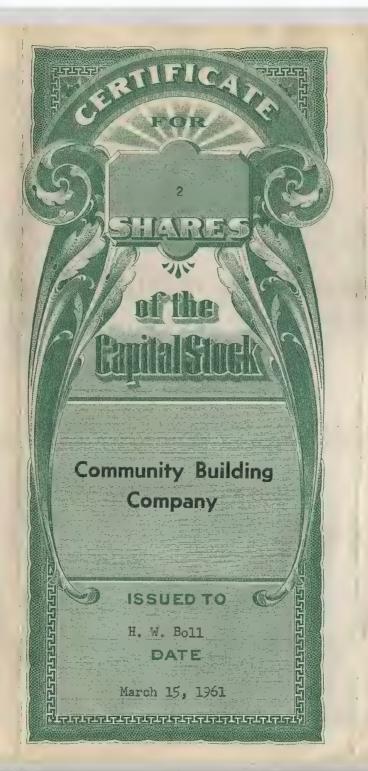
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h	為多	Je Beg	unto	<i>(</i> )
Dated In.	to transfer the said Stock on the books of the within marmed Corporation with full power of substitution in the premises	of the Capital Stock represented by the within Gertificate and do hereby irrevocably constitute and appoint	Et .	The function of the property sett, assign and manager
In presence of	tions	The sales		June
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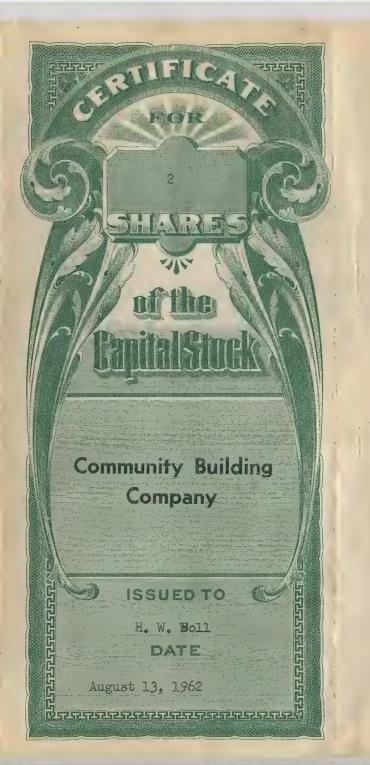
WOLICE. THE SIGNATURE OF THIS ASSIGNMENT MADE OF THE GENTHEORY IN EVERY PARTICULAR, WITHOUT ALTERER, WATELER, WITHOUT ALTERER, WITHOUT ALTERER, WATELEVER, WITHOUT ALTERER, WATELEVER, WITHOUT ALTERER, WATELEVER, WITHOUT A





represented

NOTIOE. THE SIGNATURE OF THIS ASSIGNMENT MUST CORRESPOND WITH THE NAME AS WRITTEN UPON THE FACE OF THE CERTIFICATE, IN EVERY PARTICULAR, WITHOUT ALTERNATION OR ENLARGEMENT, OR BAY CHANGE WHATEVER.





Selmas, relative

# The Monticello Exp

Monticello, Iowa, April 22, 1948

# **Express Wins Two First Prize Plaques**



"Where'll we put them" is what the Express staff was wondering this week, after having been awarded plaques for first prize in Weekly Newspaper Typography and first prize in General Excellence for Weekly Newspapers. Express employees looking at the two newly won awards are (I to r, standing) Miss Emma Stadtmueller, Mrs. I. i. Rhatigan, Kenneth Ahlrichs, Milton Peterson, (I to r, sitting) Mrs. Leamon Scott and Miss Nelda Von Sprecken.

New

## BARGAINS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY



34 LARGE NAVEL ORANCES, dozen 23 2# BULK DATES, 1931 crop 28 PINEAPPLE, 2 large can 45 MIXED NUTS, 2 pounds 17 XMAS. CANDY, 1# mixed

CAMPBELLS PORK & BEANS, 4 can Tiny sifted PEAS, 2 cans 19 PINK SALMON, 2 tall can 22 POWDERED SUGAR, 3 pounds 22 SWANSDOWN CAKE FLOUR, package 21 AB PEABERRY COFFEE, pound 5 bars TOILET SOAP,



H. W. BOLL

XMAS. TREES, 5 foot

49

13

FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

## SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATUKDAY



13 COFN MEAL, 5# sack, yellow 27 NAVY BEANS, 6 pounds 28 SEEDLESS RAISINS, 4 1b bag 21 SWEET CCRN, 3 cans 13 CAMPBELLS PORK & BEANS, 3 can 06 LUX or PALM-OLIVE, bar STRIK-A-LITE NATCHES, carton 23 1.82 CARNATION FLOUR, 49# sack 23 MAGIC WASHER or RINSO 29 FRUNES, 40/50s SUNSWEET, 3 lbs 19 DRY CALIFORNIA LIMA BEANS, 2 15 18 MACARONI or SPAGHETTI, 2 1b box.

WHITE CHERRIES, med size PEABERRY COFFEE, 2 1bs

#### YOU FOLKS A HAPPY NEW YEAR

WHEAT FLAKES,

box deal

#10 PITTED RED CHERRIES CIDER VINEGAR, gallon SUNSWEET PRUNES, 2 1b box LIBBY CORNED BEEF, LIBBY DRIED BEEF, Large WHITE POTATOES, peck cans YELLOW PEACHES glass can

#10



NAVY BEANS, Large White RICE, 3 pounds

DAYING 13d for EGGS W. BOLI

EARLY JUNE PEAS, new pack,

Ø

RED KIDNEY BEANS, IODIZED SALT, box

20

#### SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY LUX, the FINE SOAP, 3 bars for GRAPE-FRUIT, 3 large 23 DRIED PEACHES, pound • 14 RINSO, 25¢ size 18 PEABERRY COFFEE, pound 19 PANCAKE FLOUR, 32# bag 19 STALEYS SYRUP, gallon 47 C&H POWDERED SUGAR, 3 pounds 36 LIPTON'S GREEN TEA. ONE POUND, 70¢ value COOKIES, Fine Mixed, per pound 14

1.30

59

03

SOLTAN'S POTATOES, peck for 37¢, bushel

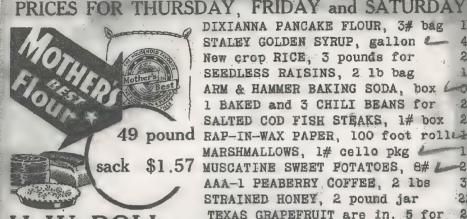
EUREKA HARNESS OIL, Bring your container, gallon

BRING IN YOUR EGGS. PAYING 1314

NEW CABBAGE, solid, lb CORN STARCH, 2 10¢ boxes

PRICES FOR FRIDAY and SATURDAY	
Try which to Oal a til tooking the bemediting direction	
WASHBURNS PANCAKE FLOUR, 5 1b bag 24	-
PABST-ETT CHEESE SPREADS, package 1'	7
ELBOW MACARONI or STAU. 2 lb box 1	4
BORDENS LOAF CREAM CHEESE, per 1b	8
Van Camps HOMINY, 2 tall cans	5
SUNSWEET 40/50 size PRUNES, 3 pounds 2	7
No. 1 White POTATOES, peck GOLD SEAL, per squre yard  50  GOLD SEAL, per squre yard	4.
TO THE PERSON OF	
UNI-SPAR CLEAR VARNISH, gallon 2.69 By-THE-TARD	
UNITEDIAN VALUE TARREST COLD CO.	1
Misses Spring Ankliers, Patr	5
TI TIY DOI I REG ONION BEITS, & POUNTED	· ·
H. W. BOLL CUT GREEN BEANS, per can	1
STORE OPEN until NINE every night EXCEPT TUESDAYS.	





DIXIANNA PANCAKE FLOUR, 3# bag 12 STALEY GOLDEN SYRUP, gallon 46 New crop RICE, 3 pounds for SEEDLESS RAISINS, 2 1b bag ARM & HAMMER BAKING SODA, box 1 BAKED and 3 CHILI BEANS for SALTED COD FISH STEAKS, 1# box 26 49 pound RAP-IN-WAX PAPER, 100 foot rolled MARSHMALLOWS, 1# cello pkg 134 sack \$1.57 MUSCATINE SWEET POTATOES, 8# 25 AAA-1 PEABERRY COFFEE, 2 1bs 22 STRAINED HONEY, 2 pound jar TEXAS GRAPEFRUIT are in, 5 for POTATOES, 15 pounds 22 PLAID FLANNEL SHIRTS \$1.25 BOYS FLANNEL

## SPECIALS FOR THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY



CORN FLAKES, 2 pkg with CRYSTAL DISH FREE -20 Libby GREEN BEANS, can WHOLE KERNEL CORN, 2 cans 📂 224 Valley Pride PEAS, can ORANGES, 176 size, doz OREGON BLUE PLUMS, gallon SWANSDOWN CAKE FLOUR, box BAKING SODA, package . POWDERED SUGAR, 3 pounds

22

13

09

31

29

21

07

The Soab of Beautiful Women

22

28

23

19

26

15

3 bars CAMAY, Comb FREE 19 4 QUART JARS, BALL or KERR, dozen 72 RAP IN-WAX PAPER, 100 foot 19 1 VINEGAR, full 45 grain, gallon 22

KOTEX, reg box 204, pkg of 30 48 White KLEENEX, 500 Sheet box GET SET for SERIES and POLITICIANS. RADIO TUBES TESTED FREE

### PRICES FOR FRIDAY and SATURDAY



COFFEE HOUSE COFFEE, one pound can JELL-O, six flavors, 3 packages Libby CRUSHED PINEAPPLE, 3 cans Ripe solid BANANAS, 3 pounds Texas GRAPE FRUIT, 6 for Hart KIDNEY BEANS, 12¢ cans, 2 for Fort Armstrong PEAS, 2 cans Standard SWEET CORN, 2 cans Libby's CHILI con CARNE, 2 for

15 FIVE foot STEP LADDERS made by DAV. LADDER CO. \$1.49 New designs in SHELF PAPER, 9 foot pieces -- 05 WALVET, the new paper cleaner, large cans 30 CORNED BEEF HASH, can 16 Sunsweet APRICOTS, per 1b 21

FUL-O-PEP CHICK STARTING MASH, 3¢ pound bulk, 100# 2.50



## PRICES FOR FRIDAY and SATURDAY

.39

22

08

23

26

08



OMAR FLOUR, 49 pound cloth sack SNO-SHEEN CAKE FLOUR with Spoon, box BAKERS MOIST COCONUT, 1# can Libby canned GRAPEFRUIT, 2 for JELLO or JELLO PUDDINGS, 3 pkg CRUSHED PINEAPPLE, 2 can limit 13 ICED TEA BLEND, 1/2 cello bag POST TOASTIES, large package Zephyr DRINK FLAVORS, 3 bottles 25

1939 crop PITTED RED CHERRIES, gallon can 49 NEW FALL CLOTH of GOLD DRESS PRINTS, yard 19

CLOSING OUT ROLLINS KNEE LENGTH SILK HOSE RED lipped JAR RINGS, 6 boxes BALL MASON ZINC JAR LIDS, dozen OPEN EVERY NIGHT except TUESDAYS. CLOSED SUNDAY MORNINGS.

#### SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY X CARNATION JELLO POWDER, package 31 5#-bag BUCKWHEAT PANCAKE FLOUR 24 AMER. LOAF CREAM CHEESE, 1b. 21 X MAGIC WASHER, package 19 PANCAKE FLOUR, 32# bag 29

STALEYS' SYRUP, ½ gallon RICE, 4 pounds CORN, 3 can 3 cans TOMATOES RED FLASH COFFEE, pound HILLS COFFEE

SMOKE SALT. LIQUID SMOKE bottle

17 25

25

21

39

aug 25, 1953 Towa Park, Texas Dear Mr. Balls, Received your letter of aug. 20, 1953. I realize that this account has been long overdue. But my wages that I receive ous a service man went a whole lot. I have tried to must all my abligations, but sometimes it is hard to cloon \$160, permenth and live. I have not forgather your account, although it looks like have I will begin payments on This account around the lost of Septemember on the first part. of octobers It may not be large paymente but Dwelliels my Dalla Locary Princeton Dana

but to liquidate this account as soon as possible. If this agree ment is safisfactory to your please let me know, If it went you have already stated your intentions. This is the only thing I can estr be-Cause Jan unable to pay any more bills until the later factof September of lease sent me answer. James Truly Mail terobert A/2c Meril tickent A.F. 17348024 115 West Joe St. Jawa Park, Texas Mrc Men't trickent 115 West Ove It Jawa Jack Mexan



Phones: WA. 6-6511 WA. 6-6512 5009A Excelsior Blvd. MINNEAPOLIS 16, MINNESOTA

June 18th, 1958

Mr. H. W. Boll Princeton, Iowa

Dear Henie:

I can't tell you how glad I was to see you last week, and to learn that you have done so well.

It certainly doesn't seem like 37 years ago, but the preasant memories such as I carry of you and Bert Morgan, don't seem to be dimmed by the length of time that has passed.

I was so sincere when I told you that I did appreciate all the help that you gave me in the years that I called on you. It may not have seemed much to you at the time, but the business that you gave me certainly meant a lot to me then.

There were so many towns on my territory that for one reason or another, I used to almost dislike making - but Princeton almost seemed like home, and I was always glad to get there on Friday afternoons. Princeton, too, was the first town outside of Clinton that the Western actually gave me to work, and, I presume, that may have made me more conscious of the friendships that I developed there than in any other town they later added on.

Now, from the above you have my address, and if there ever is a time when you get to Minneapolis, by all means call me and let me have the opportunity to express again, to you personally, the appreciation that I have carried all these years for your kindness and help.

With my kindest regards to your family, and with my best wishes for your own continued success, I am,

Sincerely yours,

CSBroadston:mt



Jan. 17. 1958.

Durant. Iewa.

Princten Iewa.

Mr. Henry Boll.

Dear sir.

Old friend Henry I have not seen you in a number. of years but I think you are ging alonge very good with your business.

A fiew days age Awas in Davenmert I talk to your mether If you fekes intrest to sell your farm wich yours trelemening in three Shairs. the 206 Agres. We are working an Roal Estate husiness. In Daranti was and healt like to 63 to 150 years for copie to

If so pleas send we the amount you want to sell for We may save you time and make yours some money. I have not Seen your brother Harrie. your Mother teld that she was willing to sell. You people agree on it and send me the amount you want. so that we can work on it when the spring days comming.

Mm H Eichner

hope to here from you soon.

Yours very truly,

Wn. H. Eichner. Durant Iewa.

Our commission is 2.1/2% I think it is 9.K. with you. Mr. Clarence Hill 1723 Division Street Davenport, Iowa

Dear Sir:

Mr. H. W. Boll, grocer, of Princeton, Iowa has requested this court to take action in connection with an account in the amount of \$29.80 which he states is due him from you.

It is my desire to afford you the opportunity to settle this account without action on the part of the court, other than this letter, in order to avoid the assessment of court and serving charges in addition to the amount stated above. If you will place the above sum in my hands before July 31, 1958, no court action will be necessary and hence no costs will accrue.

I hope you will find it possible to take advantage of this offer.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Volrath
Justice of the Peace
Box 114
Princeton, Iowa

GEV:CV	
න <u> </u>	INSTRUCTIONS TO DELIVERING EMPLOYEE  DELIVER ONLY TO ADDRESSEE (20\$ additional)  SHOW ADDRESS WHERE DELIVERED IN ITEM 4 BELOW (31\$ additional)
2 2 3 3	Received from the Postmaster the Registered, Certified, or Insured Article, the number of which appears on the face of this return  1. SIGNATURE OR NAME OF ADDRESSEE
No.	2. SIGNATURE OF ADDRESSEE S AGENT (Agent should enter addressee's name in
	3. DELIVERY DATE 7-12
	4.
	66-16 71542-2 GPO

Mr. Wilbur Marquette Le Claire, Iowa

Dear Sir:

Mr. H. W. Boll, grocer, of Princeton, Iowa has requested this court to take action in connection with an account in the amount of \$69.78 which he states is due him from you.

It is my desire to afford you the opportunity to settle this account without action on the part of the court, other than the letter, in order to avoid the assessment of court and serving charges in addition to the amount stated above. If you will place the above sum in my hands before July 31, 1958, no court action will be necessary and hence no costs will accrue.

I hope you will find it possible to take advantage of this offer.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Volrath
Justice of the Peace
Box 11h
Princeton, Iowa

GEV:CV

INSTRUCTIONS TO DELIVERING EMPLOYEE
DELIVER ONLY TO ADDRESSEE (20¢ additional)
SHOW ADDRESS WHERE DELIVERED IN ITEM 4 BELOW (31¢ additional)
RECEIPT
Received from the Postmaster the Registered, Certified, or Insure
ticle, the number of which appears on the face of this returned
GNATURE OR NAME OF ADDRESSEE
Willer Marsutt 10
GNATURE OF ADDRESSEE'S AGENT (Agent should enter addressee's name item I above)
Garym urquetto
ELIVERY MATE

Mr. Al Winters Le Claire, Iowa

Dear Sir:

Mr. H. W. Boll, grocer, of Princeton, Iowa has requested this court to take action in connection with an account in the amount of \$11.25 which he states is due him from you.

It is my desire to afford you the opportunity to settle this account without action on the part of the court, other than this letter, in order to avoid the assessment of court and serving charges in addition to the amount stated above. If you will place the above sum in my hands before July 31, 1958, no court action will be necessary and hence no costs will accrue.

I hope you will find it possible totake advantage of this offer.

20\$

20¢ fee

Sincerely yours.

George E. Volrath Justice of the Peace Box 11 Princeton, Iowa

GEV: CV

### INSTRUCTIONS TO DELIVERING EMPLOYEE DELIVER ONLY TO ADDRESSEE (20¢ additional) SHOW ADDRESS WHERE DELIVERED IN ITEM 4 BELOW (31% additional) RECEIPT Received from the Postmaster the Registered, Certified, or Insured Article, the number of which appears on the face of this return receipt. 2. SIGNATURE OF ADDRESSEE'S AGENT (Agent should enter addressee's name in item I above)

STREET AND NO. CITY AND STATE

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL-15%

want a retur.

receipt, check which 31t shows to whom, when, and address where delivered If you want stricted deli-ery, check her l want a re
loshows
to whom
and when
delivered

POD Form 3800 Mar. 1956 Replaces previous editions of this form which MAY be used.

July 7, 1958

Mr. Donald C. Stebens 623 Carey Street Davenport, Iowa

Dear Mr. Stebens:

There is \$4.00 court cost due the Justice of Peace Court in Princeton, Iowa, for change of venue August 21, 1957.

Please remit this to me within the next two weeks.

Sincerely,

George E. Volrath Justice of Peace

GEV: CV

C. H. WILDMAN



A Sheriff of the Country of Scott

COURT HOUSE BUILDING DAVENPORT . IOWA TELEPHONE . 2-5668

September 6, 1958

Mr. George E. Volrath Justice of the Peace Princeton, Iowa

Dear George:

We served the two Original Notices that Henry Boll brought in and our costs are \$1.25 for each notice plus nine cents a mile. Also enclosed are your notices with returns made out and costs endorsed on each notice. The total for both is \$4.66.

Mr. Boll said to notify him and he would mail us our costs.

Sincerely.

C. H. Wildman, Sheriff

Scott County, Iowa oseth H. Atthinson

Joseph H. Atkinson First Deputy

JHA: nh Enc.

#### FARMERS SAVINGS BANK

PRINCETON, IOWA

September 22, 1958

C. H. Wildman, Sheriff Scott County Davenport, Iowa

Dear Sir:

You will find enclosed my check in the amount of \$4.66 in payment for serving of original notices for Henry Boll. He has paid these costs into my court.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

George E. Volrath Justice of the Peace Princeton, Iowa

GEV:cv Enc:1

9

#### FARMERS SAVINGS BANK

PRINCETON, IOWA

October 3, 1958

Mr. Al Bovee Le Claire, Iowa

Dear Mr. Bovee:

Mr. H. W. Boll informs the Court you still owe the balance indicated on the copy of the receipt enclosed. Will you please submit this balance in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Volrath
Justice of the Peace
Box 114
Princeton, Iowa

GEV: cv Enc: 1

### FARMERS SAVINGS BANK

PRINCETON, IOWA

October 3, 1958

Mr. Wilbur Marquette Le Claire, Iowa

Dear Mr. Marquette:

Mr. H. W. Boll informs the Court you still one the balance indicated on the copy of the receipt enclosed. Will you please submit this balance in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

George E. Volrath
Justice of the Peace
Box 11h
Princeton, Iowa

GEV:cv Enc: 1

weal Suply Judgment for - 500 plustor Clarence Hell - 1723 Awisian At Sowensport Sowa Juni7-1954-29.80 One Fre Orig Fire Ol Broce - lives in rear of Closence Bowter property Deris vide of tecloire, Jourg Dev 4 (957 24.50 Harrel toger - Manufel Rante - Betendry old Diebel appliance building in froerbold Ar. 79 These 3 al winters - Jellovie Song Jung - 1954 - 11, 25 On 200 wilbur Morquette - Le Clavio Da hises on lower end of Fections reportings col 4 1959 - Cotal 69.78 Frindings

# TOWN OF PRINCETON STATE OF IOWA • U.S. A.

October 3, 1958

Mr. Al Bovee Le Claire, Iowa

Dear Mr. Bovee:

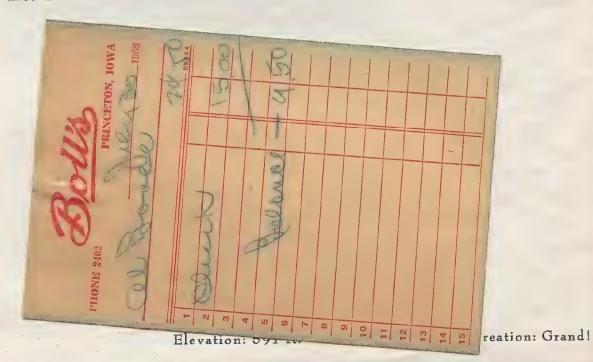
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Sincerely yours,

George E. Volrath
Justice of the Peace
Box 114
Princeton, Iowa

GEV:cv Enc: 1

Population: 600



## TOWN OF PRINCETON STATE OF IOWA • U.S. A.

October 3, 1958

Mr. Wilbur Marquette Le Claire, Iowa

Dear Mr. Marquette:

Mr. H. W. Boll informs the Court you still owe the balance indicated on the copy of the receipt enclosed. Will you please submit this balance in the near future.

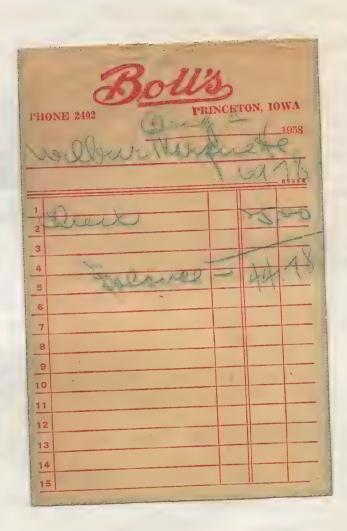
Sincerely yours,

George E. Volrath
Justice of the Peace
Box 114
Princeton, Iowa

GEV:cv Enc: 1

Elevation: 597 ft.

Recreation: Grand!





Basketball 1954



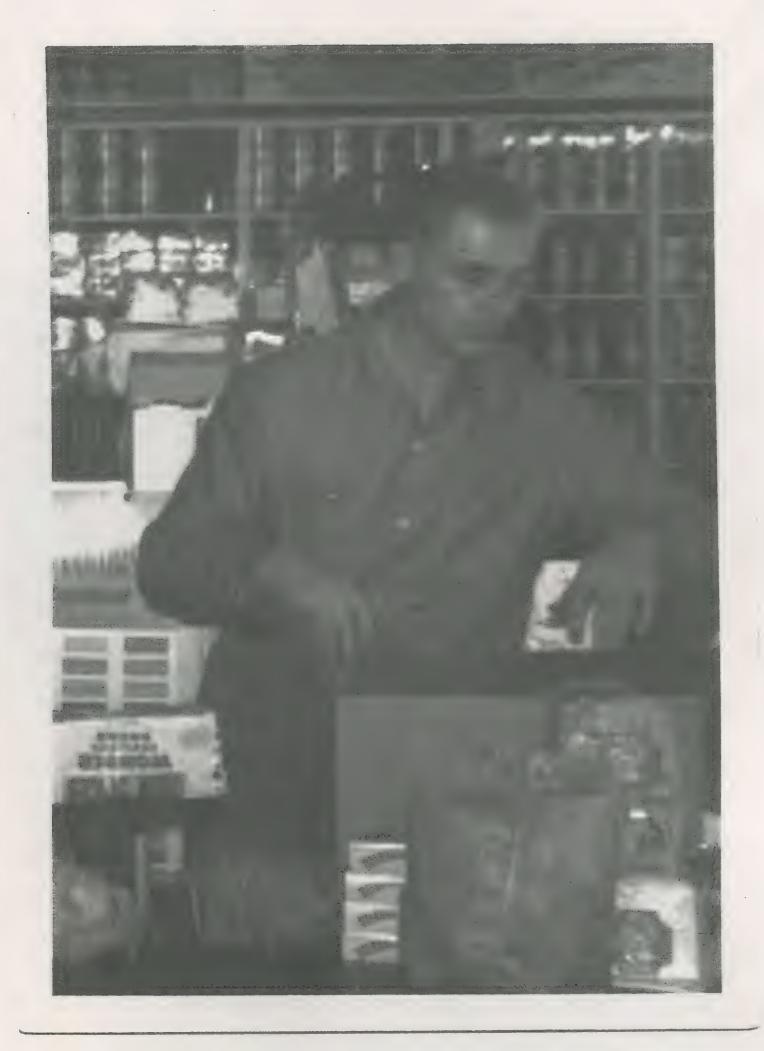
Play 1954



Play 1954



Chicken dinner











Upstairs & Bolls





aturday hegit of Paris
1955
Aboue Balls



### STATE OF IOWA STATE TAX COMMISSION RETAIL SALES TAX PERMIT ===

ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 422.53 CODE OF IOWA 1962

PERMIT NO.

82-13087

3-1-64

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

0101 8 7 1 045154

Is hereby authorized to engage in and transact business as a retailer within this state at the above location

STATE TAX COMMISSION

NOTHING HEREIN SHALL LEGALIZE ANY GAMES OF SKILL OR CHANCE OR SLOT OPERATED DEVICES WHICH ARE NOW PROHIBITED BY LAW

THIS PERMIT IS VALID FOR LOCATION AND BUSINESS INDICATED HEREON UNTIL REVOKED OR CANCELLED AND IS NOT TRANSFERABLE



**CHAIRMAN** 

PB 11201

DISPLAY CONSPICUOUSLY AT THE PLACE OF BUSINESS FOR WHICH ISSUED

125 TAXIB 42 05 WAR

FORM FNS-254 (2-71)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE



# FOOD STAMP PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION

THIS CERTIFIES that M. J. BOLL

428 River Drive, Princeton, Iowa 52768

is granted authorization to accept and redeem food coupons on condition that the acceptance and redemption of all coupons shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the Food Stamp Program and such revisions and amendments as may be made.

AUTHORIZATION NUMBER 5065127

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, FNS, USDA

November 15,1971

DATE OF APPROVAL

A change in ownership, store name or location, or the closing of the business voids this authorization and this card must be returned to the Food and Nutrition Service. For your convenience, the back of this card has been pre-addressed and no postage is required.

### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE



OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

Mr. Grocer, Please check the appropriate box or boxes so that we may better serve you.  Card is being returned because of:	
	CHANGE IN STORE NAME OR LOCATION PHONE NUMBER:
A	AREA CODE
	CLOSING OF BUSINESS
	CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP
	NEW AUTHORIZA- TION IS REQUESTED

U.S. Department of Agriculture Fond and Nutrition Service F.C. Dox 368 Marion, Iowa 52302











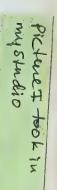






1361 9N.78











Mike the store cut born 1995. Replane



















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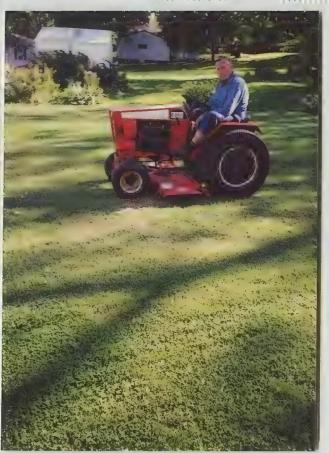






























































ATION FOR IOWA RETAIL CIGARETTE PERMIT

Heave return by June 4th Cauncil

\* 75.00

I (or We) hereby make applica	tion for a permit to sell ciga	arettes:		e
NAME AND TITLE OF BUSI	NESS BOLC'S &	TORE		
NATURE OF BUSINESS	RETAIL		PHONE_	289-5336
MAIL ADDRESS 428	AIVER DRIVE	0	2	IOWA STATE
COUNTY OF SCOTT	, IOWA,	SAID PREMISES MORE PART	TCULARLY DESCRIB	ED
AS LOT OR SEC.		TWP	RANGE	
TYPE OF OWNERSHIP:	INDIVIDUAL X	PARTNERSHIP	· CORPORATION	1
NAME OF OWNER MERC	EN BOLL NAME	504 THIRD ST.	PRINCETON,	∡oωA STATE
NAME OF PARTNERS	NAME	ADDRESS ·		STATE
	NAME	ADDRESS		STATE
CORPORATION	*	1		
	NAME	ADDRESS		STATE
LIST TWO OFFICERS	NAME	ADDRESS		STATE
	NAME	ADDRESS		STATE
	11/21/16	ADDITEGO		JIAIL .
	and affirm under oath, that	o hereby bind ourselves to a fa I (or We) have not had a cigard		
-	-			
			flermit	sticker#
			,	08101

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RETAILERS PERMIT

Licensee named below is licensed to sell Household Hazardous Material at the location indicated. Household Hazardous Material is defined by the Natural Resources in accordance with chapter 455F, Code of fowa.

1-82-013087 2 BOLL, MERLIN J BOLLS STORE RIVER DRIVE PRINCETON

IA 52768

THIS PERMIT EXPIRES

JUNE 30, 1998

Issued by the Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance, Hoover State Office Building Des Moines, Iowa 50306.

8504679 2370

STATE OF IOWA

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS

**DES MOINES** 

FEE\$ 50.00

NO. FE 82-0000526

FOOD ESTABLISHMENT LICENSE

Boll's Merlin J. Boll 428 River Drive Princeton, Iowa 52768

THE AFORESAID, HAVING DEPOSITED THE REQUIRED FEE, IS HEREBY GRANTED THE ABOVE LICENSE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 137A, CODE OF IOWA. THIS LICENSE SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE UNTIL ITS EXPIRATION DATE, UNLESS REVOKED OR SUSPENDED FOR CAUSE BY THE DIRECTOR OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 137A, CODE OF IOWA OR RULES PROMULGATED PURSUANT THERETO.

DATE OF ISSUE August 05 1996.

Expiration Date: August 31, 1997





POST IN CONSPICUOUS PLACE

NONTRANSFERABLE

## STATE OF IOWA

## **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & LAND STEWARDSHIP**

FEE \$

27.00

**DES MOINES** 

NO.

5798

WEIGHING AND MEASURING DEVICE LICENSE

BOLLS STORE 428 RIVER DR PRINCETON, IA 52768

HAVING DEPOSITED THE REQUIRED FEE, IS GRANTED THE ABOVE LICENSE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 214, CODE OF IOWA. THIS LICENSE SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE UNTIL ITS EXPIRATION DATE, UNLESS REVOKED OR SUSPENDED FOR CAUSE BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH CHAPTER 214. CODE OF IOWA OR RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT THERETO.

DATE OF ISSUE

11/6/96

EXPIRATION DATE 12/31/97 CAPACITY OF DEVICE CLASS NO.

O THRU 500 LBS 501 LBS THRU 5000 LBS

5001 LBS THRU 50000 LBS 50001 LBS THRU 120000 LBS OVER 120000 LBS

MOISTURE METERS

Del M. Gelen

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIF

197411

82



Princeton Keeps Its Community than \$6,000, according to early recachickens, six bushels of potatoes inight. This continued for some By H. G. KRUWELL

a concrete form when a group of public spirited Princelon citizens plumbing and applicances \$700, directors helped.

The building was purchased with stock bought by more than 50 stockholders amounting to more

In 1923 building, originally ords.

A contract was awarded in the amount of \$5,897 to Daniel Harring planned for three stories, stood unfinished on Princeton's River Drive a source of worry to many people in the community. What was to become of this building, and why couldn't it be completed and turned to use for the community?

That question was answered in a concrete form when a group of cost \$123.50; two furnaces \$700, dear the complete of the story of the complete of th

a concrete form when a group of public spirited Princeton clitzens got together, formed the Community Building Co. and took over the unfinished structure.

First officers of the company were Herman Kroeger, president, Z. G. Suiter, secretary and William Mess, treasurer.

The building was purchased with the company was purchased with the company on Jan. 22. 1929. it the company on Jan. 22. 1929



A STATE OF THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE P

life and personality of Henry Boll, in this familiar close-up behind the Princeton. NSP PHOTOS



This is the building that community cooperation provided for Princeton in 1928 after it had stood unfinished for some time. It is now owned and operated by H. W. Boll for his department store and the upstairs auditor-

He was 14 when he started working in a Plain View grocery store. Long hours and hard work inspired him as a teenager to attend Brown's Business College in Davenport, taking a course in bookkeeping and shorthand. His training was well learned because efficiency in Boll's Store is second to none.

He worked at several jobs in various locations, but in 1922 a friend offered to let him rent and operate a store in Princeton. That store was next door to his present location. He at that time carried such items as harness, curry combs, poultry feed and many bulk groceries.

Today the store offers a variety of items in addition to

groceries.

He married Selma Stradtmueller, a Princeton school teacher, in 1924. She assisted in the store a number of years. She

passed away in 1974.

Heinie has a daughter, Leone Kosman of Ottumwa and two grandsons. Leone is also back of the counter when she visits here. His son, Merlin took over the operation of the store when he came home from the service and Heinie "retired" on Social Security. His smiling face is still seen daily in the store but he is working only for the enjoyment he gets from meeting people and reminiscing.

Also assisting in the store are Willie Buckley, Elaine Schulz

and Dorothy Holdorf.

Heinie is an active member of Zion Lutheran Church and through the years his generosity to all churches and organizations in the area has been appreciated.

The building now occupied by Boll's Grocery Store and owned by Mr. Boll, was first opened in 1928 and for "oldsters" of the area the following account taken from an old newspaper story may be interesting. "Do You Remember?" November 20, 1928.

Thursday afternoon at 5 p.m. the new community club home at Princeton will be opened to the public, festivities begining with a chicken supper. Preparations are all complete. There's no doubt as to what is to be had for area people have donated 200 chickens, 10 bushels of potatoes, 150 pies and all the other accesories, and if anyone is a good figurer, he would know how many people will be served.

This will be followed by a program at which A.E. Carroll of Davenport will be the main speaker. There will be carnival features and a dance for which Tony's Iowans will play.

Now why is it that Princeton is doing this? It's because of the big development of a community spirit that just a few months ago organized the Community Building Company and purchased the three story building the erection of which was begun 25 years ago (1903) by Dr. John Knox. Because of five years of illness and other draw backs, the structure was never finished.

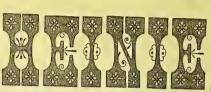
Consequently, 50 farmers and businessmen got together and organized a company and have put \$10,000 into the project with splendid results. A contract was let to Dan Haring to complete

a two story building and basement.





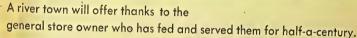
















enry W. (Heinie) Boll works 12 hours a day in a Princeton, Iowa grocery store and doesn't make a dime. It's strictly a labor of love now for 73-year-old Boll, who opened his general store 50/years ago and turned over the manage-ment to his son, Merlin, when he "retired" eight years ago.

"TOULDN'T stand to sit around the house. Besides all the customers are my friends and stop to talk," says Boll, who is in the well-stocked store daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

To mark the 50th year of Boll's General. Merchandise store, Zion Lutheran Church of Princeton will express members appreciation for its contribution to the community with an open house for the owners on Dec. 13.

"We're having a "Heinie Boll Niieht" to

"We're having a 'Heinle Boll Night' to honor the man who has meant so much to this community," said the Rev. Alan Herison, past or of Zion Lutheran. His store is our oldest business, and in his lifetime I figure he must have fed at least half the county.

The tribute to Boll will be at 7:30 p.m. and friends are invited.

Boll, a big man whose face creases in frequent smiles, got an early start in his chosen profession. He was just 14 when he began working in a Plainview, Jowa grocery store.

"THAT MEANT getting up at 5 a.m. and surving the horses. Then I'd eat breakfast, and two or three times a week drive to Dixon five miles away to meet the train. We'd trade other items for things like butter, eggs and chicken and send the survival of the

taking a "Ourse in bookkeeping and short-hand," by first job was taking down the proceedings of the Woodman's World Con-ented in Davenport in 1917. I typed it up and gd \$25 for it," he says. He Worked for the People's Light & Power Co. in Davenport for a while, then, wishing to try, his wings, went to New Or-leans and worked for a year-and-a-half as a

stenographer and bookkeeper for the Shell

stenographer and bookkeeper for the Shell Oil Co.

The illness of his father called him back to Dixon, and when his father died Boll stayed on, working in Grover Meyer's grocery store in Maysville.

There was still a touch of wanderlust which took him again to New Orleans, and then on to California. but in four months Boll was back in his home territory.

"MY DAD WAS a farmer, but I kind of liked the grocery business," he explains. He was 23 years old in 1922 when a virend offered to let him rent and operate a store in Princeton: The store at that time was located next door in a large community building which Boll now owns.

During the depression of the thirles, which had no serious effect on business, Boll tore out the wall of an adjoining building and doubled the size of his store building.

ing and doubled the size of his store building.

He carried the items common to general stores of the period, horse collars, curry combs, poultry feed, and articles like coffee, sugar, dried prunes, and cookless in bulk.

Today, in addition to groceries, the store offers such diverse merchandse as shoes, magazines, sundries, yarn, greeting cards, belts, socks, mattress ficking, caps, ribbons, pots and pans, overalls, and hardware items. For the past 20 years it has been the only grocery store in Princeton, "When my son, Merlin, got out of the Army, I was ready to retire and turn the store over to him. I went on Social Security, so I won't take any pay even though he often wants to give it to me. I tell him if I need any money I'll let him know," Boll churcles "Ji tist enjoy being here."

"I remember when farmers used to bring in country butter to sell. That's one thing I'm glad we don't have to fool with. And every farmer used to have eggs. Now'I only know of about three who still have eggs.

"WE RAN CREDIT during the de-"WE RAN CREDIT during the de-pression and still do. Some people were out of work and just couldn't pay their bills. I told them we'd just let the old bill stand-nutil they could pay it and put their new purchases on another bill and they could pay it off as best they could. Almost all of them took care of everything when they got on their feet again." Boll recalls. Some of his original customers of a half century ago still trade with him regu-larly, as do their children and grandchi-dren. He estimates he supplies the grocery needs of about one-third of the communi-ty.

"I' didn't carry any meat when I first

'I didn't carry any meat when I first started, but finally I had to because there just weren't any butcher shops left," Boll

says.

He pulls some faded 40-year-old sale cards out of a drawer. Pork chops were

selling for 10 cents a pound and steak was two pounds for a quarter. Hogs were then selling for 2%-cents a pound.

"LOOK," HE says, "at that time salmon was 22 cents a can. It's about \$1.39 now. A pound can of coffee was 24 cents, compared to 99 cents now. Peas were three cans for 25 cents. Today they'd be about 60 cents. And you could buy a 49-pound bag of flour for \$2.19. Today's price is about \$4.50."

Boll says one reason his store has survived—in—an—traw when privately owned stores have failed by the hundreds is that his prices are competitive with the supermarkets.

"We're even channer on some itoms."

We're even cheaper on some items."

"We're even cheaper on some items," he notes.

The store continued business as usual even during the Great Flood of 1965 when the Mississippi, which flows by a stone's throw away, crept right up to the sidewalk in front of the building.

"Customers just parked up on the highway and came in the back door. It didn't bother us much," Boll says.

highway and came in the back toor, andidn't bother us much, "Boll says.

HIS WIFE, the former Selma Stadtmueller of Monticello, Iowa, whom he married 48 years ago, helps out in the store for a few hours on Saturdays and Boll insists she be paid.

"When my kids worked in the store I shad the I shad the store I shad the I sha

"IT'S BEEN a pleasure to be in business here," he says, waving a big arm toward the front windows, through which the river can be seen sparkling in the mortning sunlight.

"We've got the best damned view you could want, and the customers have always been real nice people."

## Boll's Store: A rinceton Tradi

PRINCETON H.W. (Heinie) Boll and Princeton ae synonymous!

Yes, he has been here a long time and groceries have been his "bag" for many years.

He was 14 when he started working in a Plain View grocery store. Long hours and hard work inspired him as a teenager to attend Brown's Business College in Davenport, taking a course in bookkeeping and shorthand. His training was well learned because efficiency in Boll's: Store is second to none.

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Consequently, 50 farmers and businessmen got together and organized a company and have put \$10,000 into the project with splendid results. A contract was let to Dan Haring to complete a two story building and basement.

A cement floored dining room with commodious kitchen occupied the basement. On the first floor are two fine store buildings, one of which is already rented to H.W. Boll who will move his grocery stock therein.

The second floor is an auditorium with finely equipped stage and elegant dance floor. The room is finished with hardwood floor, beamed ceiling, woodwork in dark oak, side pull stage curtains and overhang of Spanish velour. The interior is artistic and will meet the requirements of a large

which was begun 25 years ago building is 46 x 76 feet, an idea of its splendid service can be looked forward to.

> Officers of the 1928 Community Building Company were: President-Kerman Kroeger: vice preseint-A.H. Schmalz: secretary-Z.G. Suiter; treasurer-William Mess. Directors were officers and J.C. DuCray, Henry Holst and Frank McKnight.

> Now back to 1976--the Community Building Company did ... meet requirements of a large clientele. Chicken suppers, dances, plays, institutes, schoolroom and anniversary parties.

> But times have changed! Since the building was purchased by Mr. Boll about 14 vears ago. extensive remodeling was done on first floor and an additional supply room built on the back.

> The 1928 officers have all passed on, dances and chicken suppers are no more, but-Heinie Boll and Princeton are still synonymous!



FAMILIAR LANDSCAPE - The landscape of Princeton wouldn't be the same without the two-story brick building on River Drive which

has served Bolls over the years.







## **Henry Boll**

Henry W. "Heinie" Boll, 78, 1 owner and operator of Boll's Grocery Store in Princeton since 1922, died Sunday, May v 22 at his home of an apparent h heart attack.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the J McGinnis Chapel, Bettendorf. The Rev. Larry Lindmark, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Princeton, officiated.

Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery, Davenport. Pallbearers were Homer 'Johnson, Waldo Jones, Emil 'Drechsler, Harold Woomert, Joe Wilkinson and Myron Suiter.

Henry Boll was born in
Dixon on Feb. 23, 1899 to
Johannes and Bertha Wulf
Boll. He married Selma
Stadtmuller in Monticello on
Jan. 15, 1925. She preceded
him in death on Aug. 7, 1974.

He started working in a Plain View grocery store at the age of 14. He later attended Brown's Business College, Davenport, taking courses in bookkeeping and shorthand.

Heinie worked at several
jobs in various locations prior
to opening Boll's Grocery in
1922. In addition to groceries
his store stocked such items as
harness and poultry feed.
V Some of his original customers
still traded with him as did
their children and grand
children.

He turned the management
of the store over to his son,
Merlin, in 1964 but continued
to help part time with the
business.

He was a 50-year member of Snow Lodge AF & AM, 3 LeClaire.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Donald (Leone) Kosman, Ottumwa; a son, Merlin, Princeton, and two grand-children.

## Princeton

## Mrs. Henry W. Boll

Services for Mrs. Henry W. Boll, 73, of Princeton, who died in her home Tuesday night, will be 3 p.m. Friday at McGinnis Chapel, Bettendorf.

Burial will be in Daven-



Selma Boll

port Memorial Park.

Visitation is after 4 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Mrs. Boll was associated with Boll Store in Princeton for many years.

Selma L. Stadtmueller was born in Monticello, Iowa. She married Henry W. Boll there in 1925.

Survivors include her husband; a daughter, Mrs. Donald (Leone) Kosman, Ottumwa; a son, Merlin, Princeton; two grandchildren, and sisters, Mrs. Ada Mann, Miss Emma Stadtmueller and Miss Mary Stadtmueller, all of Washington, D.C.



## YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN THE FUN!

- To enter the parade, contact Gloria Allen, City Clerk. The categories are: antique cars, buckboards, wagons, floats, horses, marching groups, and individual.
- To display or sell handicrafts, contact City Hall for free table reservations.
- To enter the soap box derby, pick up entry form and regulations at the Princeton library or from Myrna Doyle.

## THIS CELEBRATION IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

Princeton Boy Scout Troop No. 30
Princeton Brownies and Girl Scouts
Princeton Girls' 4-H
Princeton Horsemen's Association
Princeton Men's Civic Club
Princeton Volunteer Fire Department
Princeton Women's Civic Club
Our Lady of the River Catholic Church
Princeton Presbyerian Church
Zion Lutheran Church

## **PARKING SPACE**

Is available in the lot south of City Hall

## IN CASE OF RAIN

Church services and SAC Band Concert will be held at Virgil Grissom School Gym

## **FIRST AID STATIONS**

Emergency first aid will be available at Water Tower Park and the Civic Center

## **Bicentennial Celebration**

PRINCETON, IOWA

Saturday, July 17th & Sunday, July 18th, 1976



Featuring
The Strategic Air Command Band







## WARRANTY DEED

Know All Men by These Presents:  Kosman, her husband,	That Econe V. Rosman and Donald
	in consideration
of the sum of <u>One Dollar and Other Val</u> in hand paid do hereby Convey unto <u>Merlin J. B</u>	uable Consideration
Grantees' Address: Princeton, Iowa 52	2768
the following described real estate, situated inS	
An undivided one-half interest in a	
Lot 5 and the North Half of Lot 4 i	n Block 12, Elizabeth City, now
Lot 1, Block 3, Elizabeth City, now	Princeton, Scott County, Iowa.
This deed is given pursuant to the for Scott County dated August 22, 1 of the assets of the Henry W. Boll No. 44460, in kind and therefore no	.978 providing for a distribution Estate, Scott County Probate
	17182-78
	78 AUG 23 P 2: 39
	FEE RECORDER Didne J. Hag SCOTT COUNTY, 10WA
	Recording Fee \$ 3.00 Transfer Fee \$ 3.00
said real estate by title in fee simple; that they have go	d grantees, and successors in interest, that said grantors hold od and lawful authority to sell and convey the same; that brances Whatsoever except as may be above stated; and premises against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever,
	ts of dower, homestead and distributive share in and to the
described premises.	shall be construed as in the singular or plural number, and as masculine
or feminine gender, according to the context.	
Signed this 11th day of August	
STATE OF IOWA,	Leone V. Kosman
COUNTY OF SCOTT	Don of Thomas
On this 11th day of August 1978 before	Donald Kosman
me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared Leone V. Kosman and Donald Kosman, her husband,	264 E. Manning
and bonness	Ottumwa, Iowa 52501
	(Grantors' address)
to me known to be the identical persons named in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same as their voluntary oct and deed.	ROBERT D. WELLS

**3** 

Robert D. Wells Notary Public in and for said County and State

1.1 WARRANTY DEED
This Printing: May, 1978

## Warranty Deed

Warranty Deed	STATE On for said
J TO	OF
Entered upon transfer books and for taxation AUS 24 1978 thisday of	ersonally appeared to me known to be instrument, and ack and deed.
Filed for record, indexed and delivered to  County Auditor this	county, ss:
of	COUNTY, ss: , before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and persons named in and who executed the foregoing hat they executed the same as their voluntary act Notary Public in and for said County and said State
of County Records  Recorder's and Auditor's Fee \$PAID. Recorder  ByDeputy	rsigned, a Notary Public in the forest who executed the forest same as their voluntary for said County and said
WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO  S. G. OO C	Notary Public in and cuted the foregoing their voluntary act punty and said State

	D = -	id County and said State, personally appeared –	E OFday of
, Notary Public in and for said County and said State	to me known to be the identical persons named in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same as their voluntary act and deed.	sonally appeared	COUNTY, ss:

## R. KENNETH PERRY 52 BERRY ROAD PARK ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63122

27 October 1995

Postmaster Princeton IA 52768

Dear Princeton Postmaster:

This may sound like a strange request but perhaps you will be able to help me.

With 1996 marking the 250th anniversary of the founding of Princeton University in New Jersey, I am contemplating a project about Princetons in the United States. (I am a 1950 Princeton graduate, now retired.) If all goes well, my wife and I wish to visit all 21 of them.

As a start I would like to obtain some background about your Princeton. Do you have information about its founding, history, population, businesses, local newspaper or nearest paper carrying local news, lodging, restaurants especially for breakfast, etc. that you could send me? If not, will you pass this request to another agency in town who could honor my request?

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely

R. Kenneth Perry

MR. & MRB. R. K. PERRY 52 BERRY ROAD PARK BAINT LOUIS MD 63122



PRINCETON, IA 52768

POSTMASTER

ausweed MI195

Princeton, Iowa November 1st, 1995

Collin

Mr.R.Kenneth Perry 52 Berry Road Park St.Louis, Mo. 63122

Dear R. Kenneth Perry,

Hello, from Princeton, Iowa! Our local postmaster gave me your letter. It sounds like you and your wife have an interesting project for 1996!

Princeton, Iowa is a small town of about 1,000 people. We are right on the Mississippi River. We have about a dozen businesses, a library, a grade school, a public boat ramp, 2 private marinas, volunteer fire station, civic center, town hall, and 3 parks. We do not have a newspaper, the closest is The North Scott Press in Eldridge, Iowa. Our only lodging place is a bed & breakfast called "Woods & Meadows in rural Princeton. The closest motels would be in Clinton, Iowa or Bettendorf, Iowa. We have 2 bar/restuarants on River Drive and a small cafe on Highway 67 that serves breakfast.

There are local history books at our library. I'm currently the local historian if you need any detailed information write again.

In modern history folks started settling in our area in 1835. The town was 1st called Pinacle Point, then an adjoining area Elizabeth City. In 1858 we were incorporated as Princeton. There is not a clue in our historical records as to why we were named Princeton.

Sincerely,

Penne Miller

Penelope(Penne)Miller sec./treasurer PRINCETON DAYS COMMITTEE P.O.Box 398 424 River Drive Princeton, Iowa 52768-0398

P.S. Here's some local event info enclosed.

Holiday Hoops • Tigertown Odyssey

January 22, 1997



Civil War Historian
James McPherson Asks:
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH
HISTORY?

## Class of 1950

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

13 December 2001

Dear Merlin,

How thoughtful of you to keep in touch.

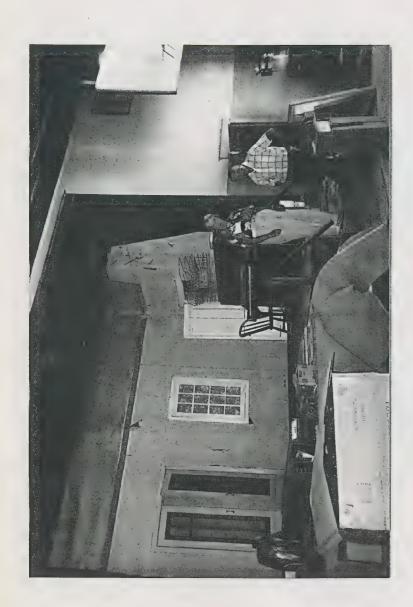
My apologies for not acknowledging your kindness in sending me the photo of high water in May. I well remember the building and actually have a photo of it in my Princeton album. Hard to believe from our July visit to your Princeton that the river could rise so high.

Got a surprise early this year when the Trenton (NJ) Times called us in St. Louis about an article covering our Princeton travels. Enclosed is a copy. Also a copy of the Princeton (University) Alumni Weekly (1/22/97) which includes an article about our odyssey. Note the photo of us at the entrance to Princeton, lowa. (Excuse me if I sent you this articleearlier.)

Happy holidays.

Best regards,

Ken Perry



Elear Merlin,

We loved our tour"

Typur building. What an

amazing place! What Listory!

If that room could talk, what

talks it would talk!

Thanks again. Yarie and Hen Perry



The Perrys relax in their summer home in Rockport, Mass. Ken, a Princeton University graduate, and Garie Perry covered 24,093 miles in their search f

# Destination: Princetons

As alumni gather at Princeton University today for reunion activities, Ken and Garie Perry reflect on a yearlong sojourn to every Princeton in the country.

> By MICHELE COOPER Special to The Times



Times graphic by Laura Sommerville:

t all started quite by accident, when Ken and Garie Perry passed a sign that read "Princeton, Wisconsin," while visiting friends in the Midwest. Naturally, Ken Perry, an alumnus of Princeton University (Class of '50) took advantage of the photo opportunity. However, a grand idea was also sparked in the retired chemical engineer's mind, which he discussed with his wife over

"Let's do this right," Perry said to his wife, Garie. "We're going to visit all the Prince-

Back at their home outside St. Louis, the Perrys did a little homework before setting

out on their odyssey. They recalled an article in the Princeton Alumni Weekly from 1967, something about misdirected mail that the university had received. The article mentioned 27 other towns, villages and boroughs in the country named Princeton. A little more research and the Perrys came up with a total of 32 Princetons.

Next, they wrote to the postmasters of each of these "other" Princetons, at least those that had postmasters, to find out as much as they could ahead of time: history, population, in teresting facts, hotel accommodations and restaurants. With the help of AAA and Rand McNally, they mapped out their route, packed

their suitcases and, beginning in January 1996, they climbed into their Buick Century a couple of times a month. Destination: Prince-

A year later, they had covered 24,093 miles in 62 days on the road, spending about 24 hours in every Princeton, "or as long as we could stay," said Ken Perry

For those towns that didn't respond to their inquires, "we just showed up."

They visited Princeton, Minn.; Princeton, W.Va.; Princeton, Fla.; Princeton, Neb. — all 32 Princetons from coast to coast, from sea to shining sea. Half of the towns had populations

See PRINCETONS, AA8

## **PRINCETONS**

Continued from Page AA1

under 1,000; some were little more than crossroads. All afforded the Perrys a "real microcosm of small-town America." "I come from a small town," says Perry. "It was fun getting back and touching base . . . it was a wonderful adventure and odyssey of visiting small town America."

Appropriately, they wound up the year in December with a visit to the original Tigertown, the "real" Princeton in Central New Jersey. The fact that 1996 was the 250th anniversary of Princeton University was just one of those happy coincidences.

Why such an unusual junket? The obvious motivation, was Ken Perry's love of his alma mater. (Only Ken Perry went to Princeton University; Garie went to Mount Holyoke College.) But, they admitted, the real reason was breakfast. "We love to go out to breakfast. we've had breakfast in every Princeton in the country. That was our theme, breakfast in Princeton," says Perry. That's a lot of sausage and gravy, pancakes and home fries, but there was also plenty of food for thought. Thirteen of the Princetons were named after the borough, the university or the 1777 battle. Nine had high schools with tiger mascots; some, such as Princeton, Minn., even adopted the colors of orange and black.

The highest Princeton was in Oregon at 4,000 feet above sea level, the lowest in Florida has an elevation of 10 feet above sea level. The smallest was Nebraska with a population of only 30. The youngest Princeton they found was in Maryland, incorporated in 1940.

The largest, and the oldest, Princeton is the borough, settled in 1724 with a population of about 2,000.

That's where the Perrys had their last Princetonbased breakfast, at Lowrie House with former university President Harold T. Shapiro. "We did have some coffee and doughnuts in the township, too," says Perry.

In all 32 Princetons, the Perrys made friends who shared their town's stories. They even received some advice about checking out those stories.

In Princeton, Ark. (population 80), for example, the

Perrys met Mr. Coleman. His wife had died a few years before and, at the age of 95, Mr. Coleman had just stopped commuting to the town where he used to be the director of the bank. When Garie Perry asked him for some interesting stories about their town, he simply answered, "yeah, stories and lies."

The Perrys took that bit of advice with them to one of their next stops, Princeton, Neb. There the townsfolk told them the history of a small brick building which had been moved when the town widened a road to four lanes. "Some of the people there were convinced that the bank had been robbed by Jesse James," says Ken Perry. The Perrys research revealed that the building wasn't built until 30 years after that. "Myth is more powerful than history," said Ken, borrowing a quote from one of his favorite writers, Roger Fulghum. "When you read the stories of any of these little towns, it's always best to check the accuracy."

When they arrived in each town, the Perrys would talk with the town historian to find out how the town came to be named Princeton. They also checked out the town's archives, spent time with residents, visited the cemeteries, read the local newspapers and, of course, stopped for breakfast. "We had a check list," says Perry.

Princeton, Ill., they discovered was one of the towns named after Princeton University, but only after some infighting among a committee. It seems there were some Congregationalists from Massachusetts who wanted to use the name of their home town. The tiebreaker turned out to be the committee person who just happened to be from New Jersey. In Princeton, Neb., it was much the same story.

In Princeton, Mich., they were interviewed for the local paper. In Princeton, Ga., they saw the ruins of an old mill. Princeton, W.Va., was named for the Battle of Princeton.

Princeton, Fla., was founded by Gaston "Duck" Drake (Class of 1894) who started a lumber company there and painted all his buildings orange and black.

Writing ahead to the postmaster really paid off when the Perrys arrived in Princeton, Idaho, a town of about 80, 10 miles east of Harvard. That's in terms of breakfast rather than lore.

"The Postmaster there, Glenna, welcomed us with open arms," says Perry. Not only did she direct the Perrys to a nice bed and breakfast near Potlatch, she promised them a "proper breakfast" the next morning.

The second of th

When they arrived at the post office — no more than a 20 by 20-foot square building — the following morning, they found Glenna and her daughter with coffee brewing, the orange juice poured and potatoes, bacon and eggs frying.

Glenna's 80-year-old father had even baked bread. It was all laid out on the sorting table and they feasted together.

Princeton, S.C., was originally named Triangle, the Perrys learned.

Apparently someone thought that name wasn't sophisticated enough and lobbied to have it changed. There they got to know Joe McCullough, a retired farmer who invited the couple to stay at his home.

"He told us he had seven bedrooms, but that he didn't cook," says Perry. And so they took Joe out to dinner. "He was a widower with seven children grown and gone... the kids' names were still all on the mailbox," says Perry, adding that their host wept as he told them about the deaths of his two wives.

"Joe had a gun strapped to his waist when we got there...he was also the game warden," Ken Perry said.

"We had lots of choices on bedrooms ... we felt well-protected."

The Perrys travels are fully documented in "two bulging photo albums" filled with snapshots of the couple in every one of the 32 Princetons they visited.

There are pictures of the Perrys with cooks and waitresses, B&B hosts, a University president, postmasters (in front of and in back rooms with bacon), mayors and police chiefs, under Princeton road signs, or simple cross road signs, in front of schools and churches.

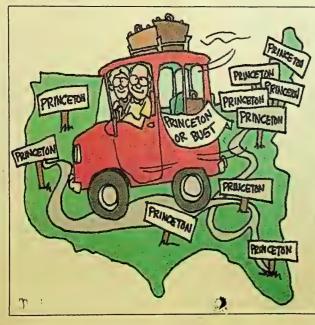
It's all written down, too -32 separate slices of Americana, as told to them by librarians, historians, chamber of commerce officials, county and town officers, senior citizens, motel proprietors, restaurateurs and newspaper reporters. What to do with all these memories? "I'm going to write a book someday," says Perry.

The Perrys' penchant for traveling to places named Princeton has ceased, at least for now. Although they still go out to breakfast a lot.

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## If it's breakfast, this must be Princeton ...

DATELINE: Princeton, somewhere — Of all the odysseys of the summer, the wanderings of Ken and Garie Perry deserve something of a golden road map and eggs-over-easy award. The Perrys are having breakfast in every city in the United States with the name of "Princeton."

They were in Princeton, Iowa, the other day, breakfasting at the Sunrise Cafe on Lost Grove Road, "That is a delightful little city," Ken says, "the only Princeton we have found on a river."

Thirty states have cities or hamlets named Princeton. In those states, there are 32 known Princetons, some so small that you would drive through and miss them if you sneezed or blinked your eyes. But why visit all those Princetons,



**Bill Wundram** 

and why breakfast?

Ken Perry is a graduate of Princeton University, a retired chemical engineer. His wife's degree is in romance languages. Together, they have made 14 trips to China as instructors. "We thought it was time to take a good look at America. We chose to find all the Princeton's because I graduated from Princeton University," Ken says. "We needed a purpose to travel, and this is it, and breakfast is a happy time to meet people."

In their Buick Century, they have traveled 9,000 miles so far in search of Princetons. They figure they are about half-way, and will have at least 20,000 miles involved before they wind up at the end of this year having breakfast with the president of Princeton University. (He has assured them the bacon and eggs will be ready whenever they arrive.) The

- WUNDRAM
Please turn to Page 2A



## **Bill Wundram**

## In pursuit of all the **Princetons in America**

(Continued from Page 1A)

breakfast thing is important to the travelers. "All the good old boys in the plaid shirts are there early in the morning. They like to talk, and we like to visit with them," Garie Perry says. "Breakfast is a common denominator."

The Perrys are an organized, scholarly couple. They map out sections of the country, usually visiting three states in a designated period, and this whole journey will take about a year. They write the postmaster in a Princeton, wherever it may be, and advise him/her of the date they intend to arrive - always at breakfast time - to give them ample time for the rest of the day to meander

"We have vowed to have breakfast in each Princeton. but some Princetons are so tiny they don't have restaurants,"Ken says. "When that happens, we go to the next biggest city and get coffee and doughnuts at a store, bring them back to Princeton, and sit



Dots on the map show all the known Princetons in America. It will take 20,000 miles to have breakfast in all of them!

on the curb and have breakfast. People are curious, and pretty soon we all make friends."

The smallest Princeton so-far encountered was Princeton, Neb. with 30 people. They ate breakfast in the saloon there, and had a greeting card recently from

"It's been quite

an adventure, a real look at America," Garie says. "When we arrived at Princeton, Idaho, the postmaster was upset that the town didn't have a restaurant. She excused herself, went home and got an electric frying pan and coffee percolator, and served us ham and eggs and fried potatoes and juice, right on the sorting table of the post office. The postmaster was 84-years old, and the post office was in an old general store. She was one of the nicest people in the

The Perrys are home-based at the moment at their home in Rockport, Mass. I tracked them down while they traveled to Princeton,

Bubbly people, who have a love-affair with small towns, Ken

says:

"What we have here is a microcosm of life in America. It was wonderful to visit Merlin, for example, in his store (Boll's General wonderful to visit Merlin, for example, in his store (Boll's General wonderful to visit Merlin, but a market the curvet essence of fish in Store) at Princeton, Iowa, and to smell the sweet essence of fish in a smoker. Princeton, ill., was a lovely city. We visit banks and ball-parks and schools and mingle wherever there are people. At the end of the day, I write at least a five-page journal about our visit—sort of a Charles Kuralt type of thing, Maybe I'll put it all in a book." He pauses while we visit over the phone and then laughs:

"At least the books should sell in all the Princetons." The couple began their journeys in Missouri, on a day when the wind chill was 41 below zero. They reasoned that Missouri was a good middle-of-the-road starting point. Through snow and slush, and heat and country road mush, they have tracked down all the Princetons, getting cordial receptions in every place. A few states, like California, have two. One of the long hauls will be to Princeton, Fla., which is near the flower and tomato-growing country of

**They** are not the camping out type. "We go the motel route. We want comfortable surroundings when it's bedtime," she says.

They firmly intend to wind up their odyssey by December, and have that last Princeton breakfast with their friend, the president of

Princeton University.

To remind him of their upcoming visit, they send him a postcard from each Princeton they visit.

### LOTTERY

Pick 3 Midday: 7-1-2 Pick 3 Evening: 4-7-2 Pick 4 Midday: 3-2-3-9

lowa Lottery \$100,000 Cash Game: 3-9-12-22-35 Super Cash Lotto: 2-7-8-20-22-38 Jackpot: \$275,000

## Baker whips up 300-pound cake for Clinto

President turns 50 today

NEW YORK (AP) — Seth Greenberg had a
good reason for skipping his exam at Chuad is
University on Saturday. He was busy baking a
cake for President Chinton's 50th birthday.
"I figure a note from the White House will be
a lot better than a note from my mom," Greenhere said.

berg said.

When he's not studying at, or playing hooky from, Columbia's MBA program, Greenberg is busy being a president in his own right — of the baking division for William Greenberg Jr. Desserts and Cafes Inc.

Greenberg, his father, William, and three other bakers began work on Clinton's birthday

cake Friday morning. They planned to have it finished just in time for the first of three celebrations honoring the president today.

This isn't just any birthday cake, mind you. It has to feed 2,000 FOBS — Friends of Bill — at a midtown party. That party will precede a gala at Radio City Music Hall, which will be followed by a birthday dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria. The president intends to attend all three.

The 300-pound cake's retail price would be \$14,000 — but not for the president's party organizers, said Greenberg, who plans to vote for Clinton.

It will feature 18 layers. "It's made entirely of vanilla pound cake with seedless raspberry pre-serve between the layers and vanilla butter-

The design for the top of the cake was gested by Greenberg's mother, Carol. It fear a 2-foot-by-4-foot American flag with a little inside each of the 50 stars.

The red and white stripes will list the no

It will be topped by 8-inch tapered red

blue candles.

"They have to be very thin so they caplaced close together — close enough as president doesn't spend all after noon blothem out," Greenberg said.

"Then again," the baker added, laughing is a politician so I don't think we'll ha worry about that."



Illinois state fairgoers show their support for Republican pres-

## Dole, Kemp talk agriculture at fair

### Kansan plays to his farm roots

SPRINGFIELD. (AP) — Last year, when Bob Dole was at the Illinois State Fair, former Gov James R. Thompson summed up what motivated the Republican presidential hopeful to cam-

paign in sauna-like tempera-tures. "If they



Kemp

the United States," Thompson said. "I mean, that's the rule. That's what Ronald Rea-gan always told me."

Dole was back Saturday — this time fresh

don't come nois State

Fair, they can't be president of

from his party's nomination the Republican National Con vention and with an entourage that included his wife Elizabeth running mate Jack Kemp, wife Joanne and about 100 reporters.

Dole addressed an afternoon door crowd of about 3,000 at indoor crowd of about 3,000 at the livestock center after morn-ing showers forced campaign aides to decide to have workers hurriedly relocate the entire

nurriedly relocate the entire staging area from the fair director's lawn.
Gov. Jim Edgar, a longtime Dole supporter who was considered by the Kansan as a potential running mate, introduced Kemp and Dole as the best presidential ticket in the country's history.

history,
"Even before the election,
they were able to bring rains to
the Midwest in August," he

sweat-drenched reporters who were being handed bottles of

spring water by Edgar aides.

Dole, in his traditional tieless fair attire of long-sleeved blue fair attree of iong-steeved three shirt and khaki pants, was flanked on the speakers' plat-form by bales of hay and corn stalks donated by the Illinois Corn Growers Association. Behind him was a canvas-like

Corn Growers Association.
Behind him was a canvas-like 20-by-30 foot mural of a farmhouse and fields of grain that an Edgar aide said was like a scene from Kansas in the "Wizard of Oz."

"They don't know agriculture from a bale of straw up here," Dole said in one of his many jabs at President Clinton's administration. "We're going to have a farm friendly president in the White House."

It was no accident that Dole picked Illinois or the fairgrounds for one of his first campaign stops as the GOP nominee. With 22 electoral college votes, Illinois ranks sixth in the nation, but more importantly it is a traditional swing state that no Republican has lost and become president.

no Republican has Jost and become president.
"This is a strong indicator that Bob Dole and Jack Kemp are going to compete for Illinois and we expect to see both of them, as well as their wives, a lot between now and November," said Ed Murnane, a senior adviser to the Dole campaign in Illinois.

Illinois.

The setting — at the annual agricultural extravaganza in the heartland of the Midwest in one of country's most important agricultural states — is hard for any national politician — Republican or Democrat — to impore

ignore.
Charles Wheeler, a professor of public affairs reporting at the University of Illinois-Springfield, said the visit helps underscore Dole's message that he wants a return to old-fashioned place.

## PEOPLE

## Famed bullfighter dies at 50

MEXICO CITY — Manolo Martinez, one of the greatest Mexica matadors of all time, has died in a southern California hospital, Mexican media reported. He was 50.

Martinez died Friday in La Jolla, Calif., where he had been treated for hepatitis and was awaiting a kidney transplant, the tel vision news program 24 Horas reported.

Martinez dominated the bull ring in the 1960s and 1970s. At the height of his career, he was called "The Chief of the Brave Festival."

val."

He retired in 1982 and became a respected cattleman, occasiona returning to the ring between 1987 and March 1990.

In the Plaza Mexico, the world's biggest bull ring, Martinez won 10 bull tails in one afternoon — more than any bullfighter who appeared there. He also held the plaza's records for having the mo

bull ears and fought the most bullfights.

Martinez had been gored 10 times. A 1974 injury by the bull "Bo rachon," or "Drunkard," nearly killed him; he never fully recov-

## Chita Rivera leads 50,000 in Macarena

NEW YORK — Broadway star Chita Rivera led more than 50,000 fans doing the Macarena at Yankee Stadium,
After the fifth inning, Rivera ran out in front of the Yankees' first-base dugout during the Friday night game against the Seattle

The Yankees wanted to break the world record for the longest Macarena "line," set by 37,556 at the Kingdome in Seattle during a

Macarena "ine," set by 37,555 at the Kingdome in Seattle during a Mariners game in June.

Five members of the Yankees' grounds crew, who usually perform a routine to "YMCA" while dragging the infield, followed along with Rivera. But Ken Griffey Jr of the Mariners and many other players just watched and smiled — not dancing to the popularity. Latin Dance tune song by Los Del Rio.

### **Carter receives Order of Merit**

BUDAPEST, Hungary - It was a crowning achievement of sor

BODALES I, Imagay for former President Carter. He received Hungary's Order of Merit Saturday for fostering bilateral ties — and returning St. Stephen's bejeweled crown, a

mational symbol.

"Your presidency and your gesture to return our coronation regalia basically changed the relations between our two countries. President Arpad Goencz, said at the ceremony.

The crown, perhaps the most potent symbol of Hungary's ancie monarchy and strivings for independence, was confiscated by the Nazis during World War II, then captured by the Americans and stored in the United States until its return to Hungary in 1978.

"I'm happy to see that the country has become free, and the respect of human rights is a great achievement of your freedom, said Carter, who campaigned ardently for human rights in the Soviet bloc during his presidency.

Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, arrived in Hungary last week to help build homes for the Habitat for Humanity foundation.

## 4 films keep Sarah Jessica Parker busy

4 films Keep Saran Jessica Parker Jusy NEW YORK — See Sarah run, and run, and run and run. Sarah Jessica Parker is all over the big screen, with four movies due out this year and another next year.
She plays a husband-stealer in "First Wives Club," which stars Diane Keaton, Bette Midler and Goldie Hawn.
She also appears in "Extreme Measures" with Hugh Grant, in "Mars Attacks!" and "The Substance of Fire."
She's due to appear on Broadway in December in "Once Upon a Mattress," and somewhere she found time to film "Til There Was You," a comedy due out next year.
"I couldn't believe how much work she was doing, and on top of everything, she'd be reading a Henry James novel" between takes."Til There Was You" director Scott Winant told Entertainment Weekly.

## Whitewater is good for Clinton?

NYINTEWARER IS GOOD FOR CHIRCON NEW YORK — Were Whitewater, Travelgate and Paula Jones at political handicaps? Campaign strategist James Carville thinks they've actually helped President Clinton's image.

"If you go talk to 10 people out there, they'll all tell you, 'One thing about Clinton: He can take a beating," 'Carville says in the Sept. 5 issue of Rolling Stone.

"It's almost like all the piling on has — in the weirdest way — helped him."

helped him.

## Watch out for the extras

NEW YORK — Never let the extras get too involved in their roles Liam Neeson learned the hard way. During a scene shot in Ireland for "Michael Collins," the upcoming movie about the founder of the Irish Republican Army, Neeson and Aidan Quinn had to walk through a mob. "We had some big, burly Irish army soldiers who were playing the British, and they decided to knock me over in every take," Neeson told Entertainment Meehv.









▲ Clockwise from top left: The Perrys pose in Princeton, Oregon (pop. 100), Alabama (pop. 200), Nebraska (pop. 30), and Iowa (pop. 800).

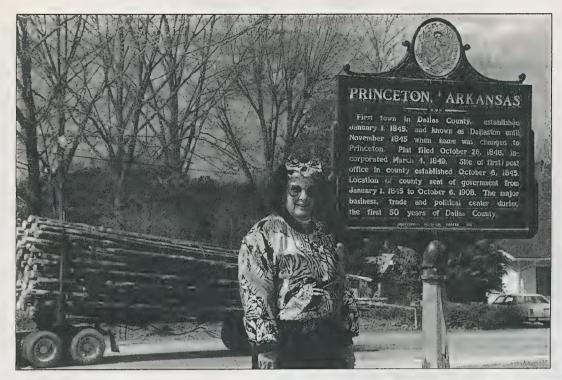
Princeton in 1940, but it was never developed under that name. Instead, it's part of a subdivision called Andrews Manor, a home for many employees at Andrews Air Force Base; the local grade school is known as Princeton Elementary. The Perrys visited the school, met the principal, and gave a talk to the students.

The most difficult Princeton to find was the second of two in Georgia. When the Perrys visited the location 20 miles east of Atlanta, they found no physical traces of a town. But in the Rockdale County Library they learned that a Princeton had existed there many years before.

Ken, who majored in chemical engineering, worked for most of his career at Monsanto, in Springfield, Massachusetts, and St. Louis. In 1985, he says, he received a "golden handshake," and the following year he and Garie began spending part of each year teaching English in China.

The Perrys have no plans to repeat their Princeton pilgrimage, which covered 24,093 miles and cost \$8,000, but they are still considering writing a book about their sausage-and-biscuit ramblings, tentatively titled *A Year in Princeton*.

Lolly O'Brien is PAW's Class Notes editor.



Left: Garie Perry in Princeton, Arkansas.

Below, from left:
• The U.S.'s 32
Princetons.
• Ken Perry '50 in
Princeton, West
Virginia. Named for
a Revolutionary
War battle, the
town saw fighting
in the Civil War.
• The Perrys in
Princeton,
Kentucky, which
got its name from
an early settler.







small for a restaurant, they would have coffee and a sausage biscuit or doughnut while standing by the hood of their car.

In every Princeton, the Perrys took pictures and made friends and news. In Princeton, South Carolina, a local farmer, whom the Perrys had phoned after getting his name from a person who knew a person who knew him, invited them to spend the night at his place. In Princeton, Idaho, the postmaster and her daughter invited the Perrys back to the tiny post office, where they served up eggs and coffee from appliances brought in for the occasion. In Princeton, Louisiana, a taxidermist showed off the 37-foot-long, handmade canoe he uses for taking tourists on gourmet float trips on the local bayou. At least 11 newspapers ran stories on the Perrys' quest. In Princeton, Michigan, a writer was so taken by their story that he produced an eight-page press release and mailed it to newspapers across the country.

In each Princeton, the Perrys tried to visit (if they existed) the library, cemetery, high school, chamber of commerce, county courthouse, and newspaper. They recorded information on the high school's mascot and colors—nine Princeton high schools have

tigers as mascots, but only one of these, in Minnesota, drapes itself in orange and black. (Three schools have bulldogs as mascots, two have panthers, and two have eagles. Other mascots include a cougar, a mustang, a redbug, a bee, and a dragon.) At the county library in Athens, Georgia, an archivist dug from her files the original letter from James Neville asking for information for his 1967 PAW article. The Perrys found in this part of Georgia the ruins of an old mill called Princeton. The mill's first president had been William Williams, Class of 1806.

Often at local libraries, the Perrys learned of a town's founder and the provenance of its name. Princeton, West Virginia, was named for the Battle of Princeton; the town is located in Mercer County, named after General Hugh Mercer, a Virginian who was killed in the battle. Princeton, Missouri, is also located in a Mercer County (as, of course, is the one in New Jersey). Princeton, Florida, was founded by Gaston "Duck" Drake, Class of 1894, who started a lumber company in Dade County and painted all its buildings orange and black.

Princeton, Maryland, which exists on the Rand McNally map, turned out to have been platted as Facing page: The Perrys ham it up in Princeton, Minnesota, named for a local lumberman, John S. Prince.



## FLUID MILK AND ICE CREAM DIVISION

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Post Consumer PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN UPPER PORTION WITH YOUR REMITTANCE Recycled Paper PRODUCT NUMBER QUANTITY DELIVERED TOTAL QUANTITY EXTENDED 9/01 9/02 9/04 9705 9706 DELIVERY TICKET NO. BALANCE FWD 209.00 WEEKLY TOTAL TOTAL POINTS CURRENT WEEK WEEK 2 WEEK 3 WEEK 4 209.00 WEEK 5 AND OVER PAYMENTS BALANCE DUE -00

## Princeton's past may help town improve its future

## ■ Council votes soon on community center

By Doug Schorpp QUAD-CITY TIMES

PRINCETON, Iowa — The city of Princeton may be going back to the future to preserve its past and invest in its tomorrow.

The city first wanted to tear down its present community center and replace it with a brand new building. Now, the plan is to replace the existing building with a new community center that served as the town's community center long before the present site was used.

It's really not as complicated as it may sound.

The city council is expected to vote this week on a new proposal to purchase the historic Boll general store, which once was used as the town's community center many years ago, and convert it into the

new community center.

Mayor David McLaughlin said he
will call a special council meeting

will call a special council meeting, possibly for Thursday, when a vote will be taken. He said the community development committee studying the situation has voted 9-1 in favor of purchasing the Boll building.

If the city council approves the plan, it would be a departure from previous plans to build a brand new community center next to where the present center is located. The mayor said earlier this year that plans were under way to build a new structure to replace the 1911 building that first was used as a small depot. Over the years, the building has been expanded and used first as City Hall and then as the town's primary meeting hall.

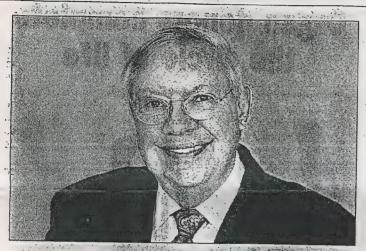
It's a popular spot for the local Lion's Club soup suppers, wedding receptions, or for Rebekah Princeton Lodge's card parties or Girl Scout gatherings. But McLaughlin said it's too small.

Merlyn Boll, who, along with his father before him, has operated the store for decades, plans to retire later this summer. He offered the building to the city, which prompted the special committee to change plans.

"They think the riverfront is the place for it," McLaughlin said. "It has better parking and more square footage. Some of the older folks remember the old (community center) that was built in 1923 or 1924.

"It's a sound building. It has a full basement. The upstairs was the original community center in the city. The upstairs has a stage, basketball hoops for kids to play. The downstairs, the grocery store area, gives us twice the space. The basement, that will be the last thing we would fix up. We think it's great. We hope the majority of the town thinks so."

If all goes well, he expects the center will be completed in six to 10 months.



BILL WUNDRAM

## With heart, a community buys its 'general store'

PRINCETON, Iowa — Last Friday, everyone driving by Boll's General Store honked. It was Merlin Boll's 70th birthday. Those were centimental honks, because Merlin Boll is not going to be running the store — with its big front windows and shining view of the Mississippi River — much longer. The community is buying it.

In this age of catalogs and malls, Boll's Store has been unique. It was a place where a man could walk in naked and come out fully clothed, carrying a sack of groceries and enough parts to fix his car or tractor. That is the way of a good general store. Everything is sold.

**Boll's will** be closing soon, and the community of Princeton has such a heartfelt warmth for the extraordinary old building that it has bought it for about \$80,000. It will no longer be a store. It will



become a community center for meetings and play productions and chicken suppers and all good things that happen in a charming small town of about 900 people.

The building, built like a fortress to be a hospital, is indeed as extraordinary as the general store it has housed for about 50 years.

Boll's store is generically Mid-America Gothic....always a place with a "flower list," that is, a paper on the counter where customers mark down how much they wish to donate for flowers for someone from the community who is ill, or deceased. Merlin then orders the flowers. While standing at the counter, I watched Merlin — who also repairs screens and broken window sash and is the butcher — step to the old flip-flop register and flick to a customer's account list. The store still has charge accounts for those who wish, and will carry senior citizens' purchases until Social Security checks arrive. Of course, Boll's has always delivered.

**No wonder** the community wanted to save the old store building. History certainly walked its way, and generations of root are within the wooden floors and counters and penny candy cases.

It was built by a Dr. John Knox, who intended it to be a hospital. "Why a hospital, 89 years ago in a small town like Princeton?" questions Penny Miller, the river city's historian. The hospital never worked out, and for 20 years the building languished as a derelict of the riverfront. When Heinie Boll (Merlin's dad) took it over to become a store the place perked up.

become a store, the place perked up.

The second floor buzzed as a Princeton community center, which the building — after Io, all these years — it is about to become once again. Merlin led up a flight of wide oak stairs to an auditorium with ticket window and a hard rock maple floor, which enterprising Heinie turned into a roller rink in the 1930s. The building served every community need for generations. School graduations were held there. Professional (?) wrestling matches drew roars that could be heard through open windows half-way across the river. Movies were shown.

**Look up** on the stage," Merlin says, through dreamy eyes. The set from the last school performance, staged there perhaps in the 1950s, is still in place.

Dave McLaughlin, Princeton's mayor, says, "We needed a community hall, and could have ended up with a Butler-type building, but decided to buy Boll's store, a place with character."

It was not without debate. Penny Miller, the historian, made a fervent plea to win over the doubters. Before any decision was made, though, an engineering firm inspected the building to be certain it was not ready to fall down. It was found to be sound as a silver dollar, but at the beginning, only the first floor will be used.

Mayor McLaughlin says the deal calls for Merlin Boll to make his building available by Aug. 31. "But we'll wait longer," he says.
""Whatever Merlin finds to be considerate."

Life has always been considerate around Boll's General Store. They used to considerately stay open on Saturday nights for one particular customer. He would never come in to buy his groceries until "Gunsmoke" was over at 9:30.



## Henry Boll

Henry W. "Heinie" Boll, 78, owner and operator of Boll's Grocery Store in Princeton since 1922, died Sunday, May 22 at his home of an apparent heart attack.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the McGinnis Chapel, Bettendorf. The Rev. Larry Lindmark, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Princeton, officiated.

Burial was in Memorial Park Cemetery, Davenport. Pallbearers were Homer Johnson, Waldo Jones, Emil Drechsler, Harold Woomert, Joe Wilkinson and Myron Suiter.

Henry Boll was born in Dixon on Feb. 23, 1899 to Johannes and Bertha Wulf Boll. He married Selma Stadtmuller in Monticello on Jan. 15, 1925. She preceded him in death on Aug. 7, 1974.

He started working in a Plain View grocery store at the age of 14. He later attended Brown's Business College, Davenport, taking courses in bookkeeping and shorthand. Heinie worked at several jobs in various locations prior to opening Boll's Grocery in 1922. In addition to groceries his store stocked such items as harness and poultry feed. Some of his original customers still traded with him as did their children and grand-children.

He turned the management of the store over to his son, Merlin, in 1964 but continued to help part time with the business.

He was a 50-year member of Snow Lodge AF & AM, LeClaire.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Donald(Leone) Kosman, Ottumwa; a son, Merlin, Princeton, and two grand-children.

"Heinie" Boll, in the family's business. Merlin took over after Heinie died in 1977.

Merlin, who never married, had no one to inherit the business, so Boll's Store — the only surviving grocery among several that served the area in the early part of the century — closed at the end of August after nearly three-quarters of a century of operation.

Things went full circle for the building, which formerly served as a community center and which was purchased from Boll by the city for just such a purpose.

Generations of Princeton residents have walked through the doors of the old brick building, its wooden screen door with the old-fashioned spring closing with a familiar "thwack" behind them. With the closing of Boll's Store, residents now must travel several miles to do the weekly shopping.



Boll's Store in Princeton closed in August. Owner Merlin Boll had been behind the counter since 1944.

INSIDE: Area council, mayoral seats will be up for grabs: Page 2

## The North Scott

# PRESS

Largest Paid Circulation Of Any Weekly Publication In Scott County

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL/Page 8** 

WEDNESDAY, August 20, 1997

ELDRIDGE, IOWA

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 34

North Scott Edition - 3 Sections, 72 Pages National Edition - 1 Section, 40 Pages **75¢** Home Delivery 46¢

# A *hot* time planned in Walcott

The Walcott Fire Department will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Saturday, and firefighters plan to party in style.

The "Centennial Celebration," which is being coordinated by Chief Brian Wells, will take place inside the Walcott Coliseum and the street in front of it.

"We want to celebrate this historic event, but also provide an enjoyable time for those people and groups who have stood behind us in good times and bad," said Phil Roberts, the department's public relations officer. "That support was never more evident than last July 6 (1996), when the Hawkeye Building Distributors fire raged in a square-block area right in the middle of town.

"We still can't get over the number of people who took it upon themselves to get involved that hot afternoon, furnishing cold drinks, wet towels and moral support to exhausted firefighters. Some people even helped lug the heavy fire hoses."

The day will kick-off with a flag-raising ceremony in honor of deceased firefighters at 3 p.m. at the Walcott Post Office.

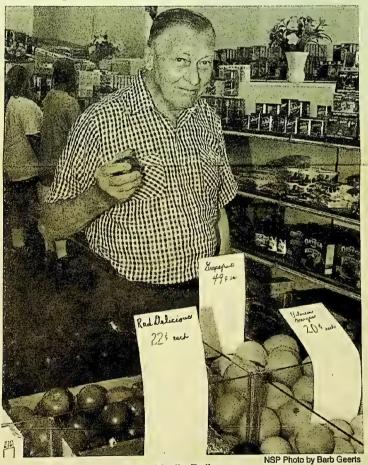
Walcott Fire Department apparatus will be on display throughout the afternoon. There will be a Fire Safety House demonstration, antique fire truck display, and various fire and safety vendors will have displays.

A Jaws of Life demonstration will be held at 3:30 p.m., and games of chance will get underway at 4 p.m.

### WALCOTT

continued on page 9

## Bye, bye Boll's



Merlin Boli
- Retiring grocer -

■ Princeton grocery store prepares to close its doors

by Barb Geerts

There's no question: Merlin Boll, owner of historic Boll's Store in Princeton, is much more comfortable wrapping up a pound of ground beef for a customer's order than responding to some reporter's questions.

"You don't want to say too much; they quote ya," he says in mock seriousness from his bar stool behind the counter.

Whatever hoopla there may be over this long-time grocer's retirement, it's obvious he did not originate it. A quiet, humble man, 70-year-old Merlin Boll would like nothing better than to slip away unnoticed.

But such things are not possible in a small community like Princeton, where everybody knows everybody, and folks watch out for each other.

Who here doesn't know that soon, the final bell will toll for Boll's?

And who here doesn't know Merlin, as much a fixture of the corner grocery store as the paper roll dispenser at his butcher counter. He has been greeting customers at the store overlooking the Mississippi River since 1944, when he joined his father, Henry "Heinie" Boll, in the business. He took over after Heinie died in 1977.

Merlin, who never married, has no one to inherit the business, so Boll's Store — the only surviving grocery among several that served the area in the early part of the century — will close at the end of this month after nearly three-quarters of a century of opera-

### BOLL'S

continued on page 19

# Historic building will house community center

#### **BOLL'S**

continued from page 1

Things are going full circle for the building, which formerly served as a community center and was recently purchased by the city for just such a purpose.

Generations of Princeton residents have walked through the doors of the old brick building, its wooden screen door with the oldfashioned spring closing with a familiar "thwack" behind them (no automatic doors here). Soon, those customers will have to travel several miles to do the weekly shop-

ping.

It isn't just the loss of the community's large ton residents are lamenting: It's the end of an era where personal service was king and every customer had a name.

And when being neighborly sometimes took precedence over good business.

#### **Helping Thy Neighbor**

Marian Harry, who has been a clerk at Boll's since 1981, said Merlin has always gone out of his way to help folks - delivering groceries free-of-charge to the homebound, and assisting in other ways.

People would come in for a tool, and if he didn't have it (to sell), he'd say, 'Oh, I've got one up home. You can go up and borrow it," she recalled.

One resident remembers how Merlin and his father helped their family survive when times were tough. "When things got bad and there was no money, my child did not go hungry because Heinie and Merlin cared enough to let us charge (our groceries) until we could pay," the writer states.

'Boll's people cared (about us) not just for the business, but as friends. Lots of children and elderly people (would) go hungry if it was not for (Boll's Store). When someone needed something special, they would order it. And if you needed someone to talk to, they were always there. Nothing could ever replace the closeness of this store," the writer concludes.

Indeed, customers seem more like family members than "consumer units" at Boll's, where chances are you'll run into someone you know. Patrons do as much visiting as shopping as they peruse the shelves, a bit picked over from a "going-out-of-business"

Although selection is limited now, Boll's was famous for its one-stop shopping, where residents could buy everything from briefs to bananas, canning jars to curtain rods, pajamas to paper towels.

LaVonne Irving says she has been shopping at Boll's since moving to Princeton in the mid-'60s. Before her retirement as a teacher aide at Grissom School, she says, shopping at the grocery store was part of her after-work

"It was the post office, the library and Boll's. It was my routine. I'm going to miss this store," says Irving, who inadvertently leaves a cat food purchase on the counter when she exits the store. Clerk Harry soon discovers the error, and calls Irving at home to let her

That kind of thing wouldn't happen at one of those mega-marts, someone mentions.

Boll's seems as popular with the younger set as with the long-time residents. Many stop by for a snack, or ride their bikes "downtown" to pick up a few things for dinner. The kids are welcome here: No signs restrict the number of students who can enter at one time.

"We don't have many problems," Harry

On a recent morning, a youngster in a baseball cap leans on the store's well-worn counter, holding a \$10 bill and a short grocery list from his mom.

Unable to locate an item on the list, he asks Harry for help, and she immediately leaves her post at the counter to fetch it for the lad. Then, the order filled, Harry does a quick tally on a calculator and hands the youth some change back from his ten.

Later, she queries some teens on their mode of transportation, so she can bag their purchases appropriately for the trip home.

"Okay, (are) you walking, on bikes, or what?" she asks them.

Harry and her fellow clerks - Cherol Summers and Sue Filbrandt - do all they can to assure that the foodstuffs arrive home intact.

When business is slow, Merlin keeps a pair of binoculars beneath the counter to keep an eye on the river action. Eagle-watching is a particularly enjoyable winter activity.

When he retires, Merlin probably won't miss the long hours he puts in at the store, which is open six days a week. Merlin's sister, Leone Kosman, has been helping out at the grocery in recent months, as well. She said she and her brother "grew up" at the store, first assisting with stock and later, waiting on

She recalls when farmers would bring fresh eggs in for sale at the store. "We'd unpack the eggs and put them in big crates," she said.

'That was a long time ago."

Kosman said her father first opened a grocery in the building next door before moving to the corner facility, but she doesn't recall exactly when the move occurred.

#### Hospital to community center

The building that now houses Boll's was built during the early 1900s by Dr. John Knox, who intended to use the three-story structure as a hospital. However, he ran out of funds before the construction could be completed, according to historical records.

In 1928, a stock company was established by 50 area farmers and businessmen for the purpose of remodeling and completing the building. The finished structure had kitchen and dining room facilities in the basement, two large storage rooms, and a top floor with

"Years ago, they used to have card parties and things like that up there," Kosman said. 'Movies, roller skating, and wrestling matches were held up there in the early years. Downstairs, they'd have chicken suppers.

Heinie Boll eventually acquired the build-



Landmark Building - Originally intended to be a hospital, this historic, turn-of-thecentury building in Princeton served as a community center before Henry "Heinie" Boll established his grocery store there. Now, with the retirement of Heinie's son, Merlin, the Boll's Store building will be going full circle: Princeton officials have purchased the structure, which will be remodeled into a community center.

ing by purchasing stock from willing sellers. Now, nearly 60 years after city leaders first turned the historic structure into a community

center, officials are hoping that chicken suppers and other community functions will again be held in the building.
Princeton Mayor Dave McLaughlin said

the present community center, a former depot located on Highway 67, has outlived its use-

"We're going to tear the old one down. It iust got too old (and) the roof leaks," said McLaughlin.

Plans were to construct a pole building to serve as the new center, but when Boll indicated his desire to get out of the grocery business, city officials decided the old struc-, ture would be well-suited for a community

center, the mayor said.

"This (building) gives us three to four times more square footage," he said of the corner grocery, which will soon be used for a variety of community activities.

"We could fit 200 to 250 downstairs. And we own the park across the street. We've got big plans, but it's still in the works," said McLaughlin, adding that preliminary estimates

for the remodeling project are not yet in.

The mayor said that the city will give
Merlin ample time to liquidate his inventory and vacate the building after Aug. 31.

Kosman and the employees at Boll's had hoped to have an open house of sorts in honor of Merlin's retirement, but he has resisted the idea so far, his sister said. "He wants it to be like any other day and that's it - the end of it."

# Eldridge council awards bid for Lancer Park paving project

Workers will soon start re-paving portions of the Lancer Industrial Park, in a construction project a number of business owners felt they

were unfairly assessed for.

The Eldridge City Council in a special meeting Monday night awarded a construction bid to Hawkeye Paving of Bettendorf to pave portions of North Ninth Avenue, East Franklin Street and East Price Street.

The good news for property owners is that the estimated project cost dropped more than 17 percent, from \$969,300 to \$734,176. This should lower the assessments, said city administrator John Dowd.

There will definitely be change orders,"

In a meeting last April the council estimated property owners would have to pay about \$200,000 in assessments.

Five other companies, McCarthy Improvement, Foley Construction, A. Oetzel Construction, Valley. Construction and Five Cities Paving also bid on the project, but were too high. Their bids ranged from \$787,824 to

Shive-Hattery engineer Myron Scheibe said construction should start within a few weeks. Hawkeye is under contract to have the project finished by June 30, 1998.

# Absentee ballots available

Absentee ballots are now available in the Scott County Auditor's Office for the 1997 School Board Elections to be held on Tues-

According to Iowa Law, any registered voter may vote absentee when they expect to be absent on election day during the time the polls are open, or, through illness or physical disability, the elector expects to be prevented from going to the polls and voting on election

Ballots requested in person must be voted at the time of the request. The Auditor's Office is open between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday

The deadline for voting an absentee ballot in person in the Auditor's Office for this election is 4:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8.

Voters requesting ballots by mail should address all requests to the Scott County Audiances 14 tor, Courthouse, Davenport, IA 52801. Requests must include: name, address, social

security number, signature, and address to which the ballot is to be mailed, Mail requests will be honored until Sept. 8, however it is advisable to request ballots as soon as possible and to take into consideration the length of time needed for ballots to be returned by the mail. The return ballot must be postmarked no later than Sept. 8, or be hand delivered to the Auditor's Office by 8 p.m. election evening to

All inquiries concerning absentee ballots should be directed to the Scott County Auditor's Office at 326-8631 or 326-VOTE.

#### **Outdoor Fall Soccer**

The Scott County Family Y's Outdoor Fall

Soccer season begins Aug. 23.
Games will be played on Saturdays in Bettendorf, Davenport, Eldridge, Park View and Pleasant Valley. For more information, call (319) 359-3733.



Checking Out - Marian Harry, a long-time clerk at Boll's Store in Princeton, uses a calculator to tally the purchases of customer Margaret Anderson. Most patrons are a calculator to tally the purchases of customer Margaret Anderson. Most patrons are a calculator to tally the purchases of customer Margaret Anderson. Most patrons are a calculator to tally the purchase of customer stores. canned goods to rubber boots.



Boll Honored - Merlin Boll (right), who has spent more than half a century in the grocery business in Princeton, was honored by Princeton Mayor David McLaughlin (left) during a party Aug. 29 to mark Boll's retirement. Boll was presented with a certificate recognizing him for 53 years of service to the community. Contributed Photo

# Princeton residents honor Boll

Long-time grocer Merlin Boll was honored at a retirement party Aug. 29 at the historic Boll's Store in Princeton.

Hundreds of well-wishers turned out for the event – many bringing cake and other treats. Mayor David McLaughlin presented Boll with a framed certificate marking his 53 years of community service. Visitors also got in on some bargains at the store, where groceries and dry goods were going for 50 cents on the dollar in an effort to close out the stock.

The Boll's Store building has been purchased by the city of Princeton to be used as a community center.

On Sept. 13, more than 400 people turned

out for a community appreciation Hog Roast Dinner for Boll, who was presented with a huge card created by Penne Miller and signed by those in attendance. Farmers Savings Bank donated a large cake. Thanks also go to Princeton Lions Club, Princeton Volunteer Fire Department, Bridges' and Kernan's restaurants, the Brockhouse family, and other individuals who helped organize the event and serve dinner.

Just a week after the hog roast, Merlin Boll underwent an angioplasty procedure at Genesis Hospital in Davenport. He returned home the following day (Sept. 23) and is reportedly doing well.





Casey's Aids Community Center - Donna Cromer, manager of the Princeton Casey's Store, presents a check for \$500 to the Community Center renovation fund. Accepting the donation are co-managers of the remodeling project, Mike Kernan (left) and Dave McLaughlin. The historic Boll's Store building will soon re-open as Princeton's new Community Center.

NSP Photo by Barb Geerts

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1t 1. EYESORE TURNS INTO OBJECT OF PAST, FUTURE MEMORIES

Fun will be had as Princeton's Community Center rises anew

PRINCETON, Iowa — It was the post-war, picket-fence era when Frank Sinatra was a teen idol, families still ate dinner every night together and it was safe to walk the streets at night.

And in tiny Princeton, the community center was the place to be.

If it wasn't a church potluck, a civic club's card night, a community dance or musical,

We would like to run silent movies and sell popcorn and have someone play the piano."

DAVE MCLAUGHLIN Former Princeton, lowa, mayor

the two-story brick building was bustling with wrestling matches, roller skating and basketball

Today, after more than 40 years as the Boll Grocery Store, the building once again is the community center and well on its way to becoming the hub of this little Scott County community.

In recent years, the city had another community center, but it was too small. "If we got 97 for a soup supper, we'd be doing good. Now, we can get 150 to 200," said former Mayor Dave McLaughlin, one of the

driving forces behind the conversion. The Boll Building-Princeton Community Center as it now is called — was built about 1908 by a town doctor, John Knox, who wanted to add a third floor and make it into a hospital.

Knox, who was the first white child born in Princeton, went on to serve several terms as mayor. He borrowed money and, coupled with his own investment, erected exterior brick walls for the structure on Front Street.

He twice ran into financial difficulty and the exterior of the building stood with the interior left vacant before the inside work eventually was completed.

It stood as an eyesore for years until a group of business people raised \$10,000 and sold shares to purchase the building in the

Two stories of the outer walls were removed, the building finally was completed

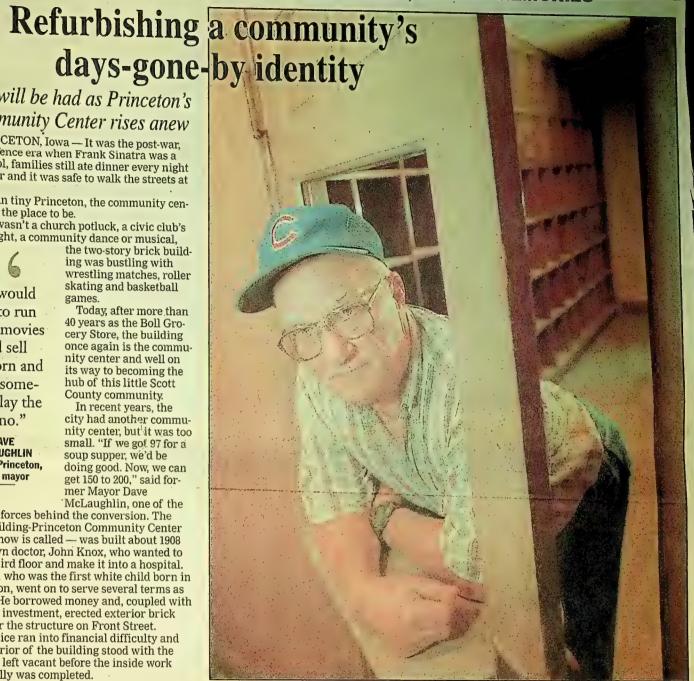
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#### **INSIDE**

Residents remember the good old days, look forward to the future: 3M

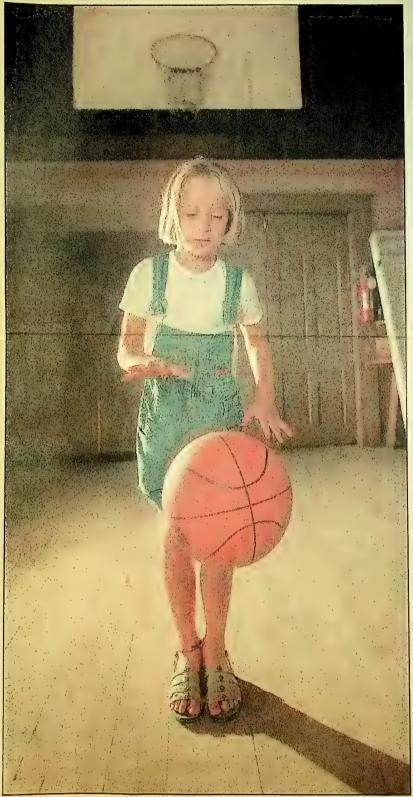
This wall shows the center's heritage as the Boll Grocery Store.







Above, Harley Walker remembers moving to Princeton, Iowa, about 50 years ago and attending dances at the community center. He is helping remodel the building, which includes a hat check room. Former Princeton, Iowa, **Mayor Dave** McLaughlin, left, is one of the driving forces behind the renovation of a former grocery store, shown at left in the photo. into the community center.



Jeff Cook/QUAD-CITY TIMES

Alyssa Irving, 8, plays on the basketball court her grandfather, Donald Irving, is helping to restore.

# Those days were fun days

# ■ Restoration brings back fond memories

By Doug Schorpp QUAD-CITY TIMES

Gloria Beuse fondly remembers that crowded old gym in the Princeton, Iowa, community center and being a cheerleader for the unofficial town basketball team in the late 1940s.

"I can remember being a cheerleader," she said, "but I don't remember that as vividly as playing basketball myself."

It wasn't the sanctioned high school team. Rather, it was a group of teenage girls from Princeton who played friendly matches against teams from other Quad-City area towns.

"When I think of all those memories, good grief," said Beuse, who still lives in rural Princeton. "Those were the good old days."

Few people are as excited that the former Boll Grocery Store is being restored as those who spent some of the best years of their lives there.

High school musicals, concerts, wedding receptions, basketball games, wrestling matches, community theater all were held in the two-story structure

Beuse also remembers her team's

"Gloria Chapman's mother was the coach," she said. "She loved to do it."

Gloria Chapman, now Gloria Wolfe of Muscatine, also recalls those days and playing teams like a group from the Annie Wittenmyer Home in Davenport.

"We weren't big-time, but for the fun

of it," she said. "(My mother), she played basketball. You wouldn't believe those uniforms. She knew enough about it to coach.

"But I also remember the dances. The firemen put on dances. My folks would go and take us kids. And we also roller skated. One thing about Princeton, it was a small town with few cars, so you had to make your own entertainment."

Wolfe, who served as Princeton's city clerk for 10 years, said she would definitely attend any grand opening, if and when the upper level of the old community center is ever renovated.

She also remembers leaving school during the lunch breaks, walking to Boll's store and buying candy. "I wouldn't get back on time and I would get reprimanded." she said, laughing.

reprimanded," she said, laughing.
Merlin Boll, whose father ran the
store for years before he recently
retired from doing the same, shares
similar recollections.

"It was basketball games, but also I remember wrestling matches. Al Grosz, used to have a gas station in Princeton, was one of the wrestlers up there.

Grosz, who proudly proclaims that he's "81 and a half," said the wrestling was part of a professional circuit that was a forerunner to the present ones.

"We used to pack the place continuously," said Grosz, who still lives in Princeton. "We took on all comers." Beuse, like her former classmates, is

Beuse, like her former classmates, is excited about the future of the community center.

"I think that is neat," she said. "I think that is the nicest thing that could have happened. That holds a lot of memories"

# **Face lift nearing completion**

Continued from Page 1M

and it began life as a community center in 1928.

Merlin Boll, who sold the structure to the city when he retired a year ago, said his father, Henry, began operating it as a store about the same time it became the community center.

"He owned stock, but rented the building," he said, adding that his father did so for at least three decades. While he used the first floor for his business, the community continued to use the top floor for games, dances, plays and other entertainment and the basement for meetings, church suppers and cards and dice games.

In the 1950s, Merlin Boll said, his father purchased enough stock from residents to take over ownership of the building. That is when the community center dissolved. Young Merlin helped out at the store and later ran the business for 35 years, retiring in August 1997 and selling the building.

In the past 12 months, behind the leadership of McLaughlin and city council member Mike Kernan, volunteers converted it into a new community center.

Work actually began in January. Kernan kept a daily diary of activity on the progress. Now, the first floor is done, complete with a large open space for community meetings, activities and dinners, plus a refurbished kitchen and restrooms.

It opened about April 1.

The second floor, once the site of the most memorable activities, still can be accessed by a large, wide staircase, the original stage, floor and coatroom. The hope is to restore the entire second story, and use it for receptions, dances and perhaps a make it home to a resurrected community theater group.

"We would like to run silent movies and sell popcorn and have someone play the piano," McLaughlin said. "It takes time to restore it. Money is what holds up the whole deal."

He said a total of \$15,000 was donated for the completed first floor. But if the upper level is to ever be renovated, he said outside donations will be needed. Anyone interested in contributing may contact McLaughlin at (319) 289-5996.



Grissom Honors Grocer - Marcia Boeding, president of the Grissom PTA in Princeton, presents Merlin Boll with an etched PTA plate in recognition of his years of contributions to the students. The owner of Boll's Store recently retired from the grocery business after more than half a century.

Contributed Photo

10/15/97

# War memorial finds a new home

Horse-drawn wagon will move monument to riverbank

Stories by Rema Graham

QUAD-CITY TIMES Clinton Bureau

PRINCETON, Iowa - With horses and a wagon, Princeton's War Memorial will be moved to a new home on the riverbank Saturday.

Since World War II, the memorial has stood in front of the town's civic center. But now, there's a new civic center and the old one will be razed.

The procession will be part of the town's Armed Forces Day program at 9 a.m. Saturday, which replaces the annual Memorial Day service.

The program will begin at the present site of the War Memorial at the Old Civic Center on U.S. 67, with the LeClaire American Legion presenting the Honor Guard.

Princeton resident Kenneth Hoggard will transport the 1,500-pound memorial, loaded on the wagon with a crane Friday, to Clemons Park by the Missis-

The Rev. Lance Ziegler will do a Blessing of the Ground, Mike Talbor will present the Placing of the Memorial as Paul Geiger sings the "Star-Spangled Banner." Lt. Col. George Eaton of the Rock Island Arsenal will speak and the Rev. Douglas Bullock-Tiffany will have a closing prayer from Psalm 145:1-4.

Refreshments will be served at the new Boll Building-Princeton Community Center.

The memorial commemorates members of the community who have served in World Wars I and II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and Gulf War.

Mayor Jim Darnell spearheaded the idea to move the memorial by horse and wagon to the central location on the riverfront. It will be placed in a cement form facing the new community center across River



Photos by Rema Graham/QUAD-CITY TIMES

The War Memorial in Princeton, Iowa, will have a beautiful new resting spot by the Mississippi River after a ceremonial procession to move it Saturday on Armed Forces Day.

Drive. The American and Iowa flags will fly behind the memorial.

Darnell wants the Armed Forces Day program to be special with the moving of memorial.

"They gave us our standard of living. It's our heritage, something to be proud of," he said.

# Community and its new civic center are taking shape

PRINCETON, Iowa - When the small town of Princeton in northern Scott County lost its store, the city purchased the huge building and volunteers converted it into a

**Darnell** 

new community center.

"The building was built in the late 1910s and was occupied by the Boll family, who had two stores there."

volunteer Ann Geiger said. "When Merlin Boll, now in his 70s, took over the family store and retired, he sold it to the city last

The first floor is completed, but the basement floor still has to be



Princeton's new community center still bears the name of the Boll family, who once had a store in the building.

painted. The upstairs will be done this fall.

The Boll Building-Princeton Community Center is just one of many projects done or planned by the volunteers corps in the town.

Mayor Jim Darnell, during his off-hours from his job at Alcoa, helps them spruce up the river-

"The people are amazing to help," he said. "You don't have large budgets. We survive a lot on small projects done by volunteer

A few years ago, Darnell spearheaded a water tower park and baseball field. A new shelter is being planned along the river for weddings and other gatherings, with the community center available for receptions.

And that's not all.

They're finishing work on a boat ramp entrance next to the memorial and a gazebo. Wild flowers will be sown on a strip of land by the highway and railroad

"We want to grow, we want people to say, 'What a quaint little town!' " Darnell said.

#### On the move

Kenneth Hoggard's horse-drawn wagon carries the Princeton (lowa) War Memorial to a new home on the banks of the Mississippi River as part of Saturday's Armed Forces Day ceremonies. Mayor Jim Darnell spearheaded the idea to move the monument to a more central location in Clemons Park facing the town's new community center. The monument honors people from the Scott County community who served in World Wars I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Persian Gulf War.



Greg Boll/QUAD-CITY TIMES

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TIMES 5-17.98

### Princeton War Memorial to be moved

Princeton officials will be marking Memorial Day in a slightly different way this year.

The annual Memorial Day Service will be replaced by a re-dedication of the Princeton War Memorial, which is being moved from its present site in front of the former Civic Center on Highway 67, to a new location in Clemons Park. The service will be held Saturday, May 16 beginning at 9 a.m. at the old Civic Center. The memorial – which honors those who have served in World War I and II, the Korean War, Vietnam and the Gulf War – will be loaded into a horse-drawn wagon and be moved to its new location, where the services will conclude.

The wagon will be escorted by members of the LeClaire American Legion, local ministers, Lt. Col. George Eaton of the Rock Island Arsenal, Mayor Jim Darnell, and other local officials. Those participating in the ceremony include the Rev. Lance Ziegler, Mike Talbot, Paul Geiger, Lt. Col. Eaton, and the Rev. Douglas Bullock-Tiffany. Refreshments will be served at the Princeton Community Center (the former Boll Building) following the service.

The Princeton War Memorial is being relocated to a spot near the new Community Center because the building that formerly housed the center will be razed.

Rebekah Assembly, I. O. O. F. of the State of Iowa Lowa City, Iowa, January 13 1998 By authority of the Rebekah Assembly of Iowa, I hereby grant Dispensation Rebekah Lodge, No. 104 I. O. O. F. For moving Charter to Civin Center to hold Subject to the conditions in foot note, and under and in accordance with the Laws and Regulations of the Order. Withres my hand and Seal of the Rebekah Assembly of Iowa, I. O. O. F. PRESIDENT NOTE If this Dispensation is for a Public Installation, remember, that under the law (Section 31, Constitution for Rebekah Lodges) the exercises must be conducted by some Elective Grand Officer, or the regularly appointed Deputy of your District, in the manner prescribed, and can not be conducted by any other person.



Submitted

#### Churches to scoop up funds for community center

Princeton ministers, the Rev. Peter Sickels of Zion Lutheran Church, left, and the Rev. William Beattie of Princeton Presbyterian Church, help Hy-Vee marketing coordinator Debbie Geisler unload ice cream for a community ice cream social. Members of the two churches will be serving baked goods and ice cream from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, at the Boll Community Center in Princeton. A free-will offering will be accepted to benefit the community center. Thrivent, a Lutheran fraternal financial organization will match funds up to \$250, and Great River Bank, Princeton, is donating \$100.

# Princeton churches plan social to benefit community center

Princeton-area churches are co-hosting an ice cream social to benefit Boll's Community Center.

The fund-raiser, hosted by Princeton Presbyterian Church and Zion Lutheran Church, will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Sept. 14 at the center, along River Drive in Princeton.

Baked goods will be provided by the congregations, and Hy-Vee Grocery Store in Bettendorf is donating the ice cream.

A free-will offering will be taken, with all monies collected benefiting the center. Thrivent, a Lutheran fraternal organization, will provide matching funds up to \$250, while Great River Bank & Trust will donate \$100.

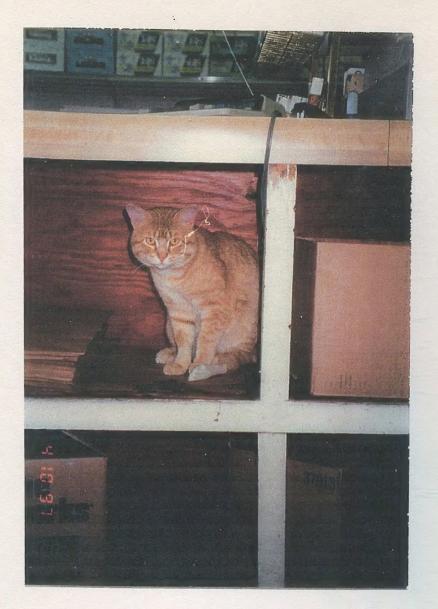
"It's nice to see the churches and community working together," said Princeton Mayor Dan Dawson.

Anyone wanting more information may call Zion Lutheran Church at (563) 289-5566, Princeton Presbyterian Church at (563) 289-4585 or Joyce Lund Mears at (563) 289-3314.

#### Riverssance is Sept. 20-21

The 16th Annual Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts will be held Saturday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lindsay Park in the historic Village of East Davenport.

N.S. Press 9-10-03



#### Merlin Boll

PRINCETON, Iowa — Merlin J. Boll, 77, a life-long resident of Princeton, Iowa died Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at Genesis Medical Center-East Campus in Davenport.

Funeral services will be held

at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004, at the McGinnis-Chambers Funeral Chapel, Bettendorf. Burial will be in Davenport Memor-



Mr. Bo

ial Park. Visitation will be from 12 to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the Scott County Humane Society.

Merlin was born July 11, 1927, in Princeton, the son of Henry and Selma (Stradtmueller) Boll and was a graduate of Clinton High School. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1947.

Henry and Selma founded Boll's General Store in Princeton in the early 1920's. From the time he was a youngster, Merlin worked at the store until his retirement in 1997, when he sold the building to the town of Princeton.

Those left to honor his memory include his sister, Leone Kosman, of Davenport, his

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hephews, Gatendorf, and Texas; and a Susan Filbr Iowa.

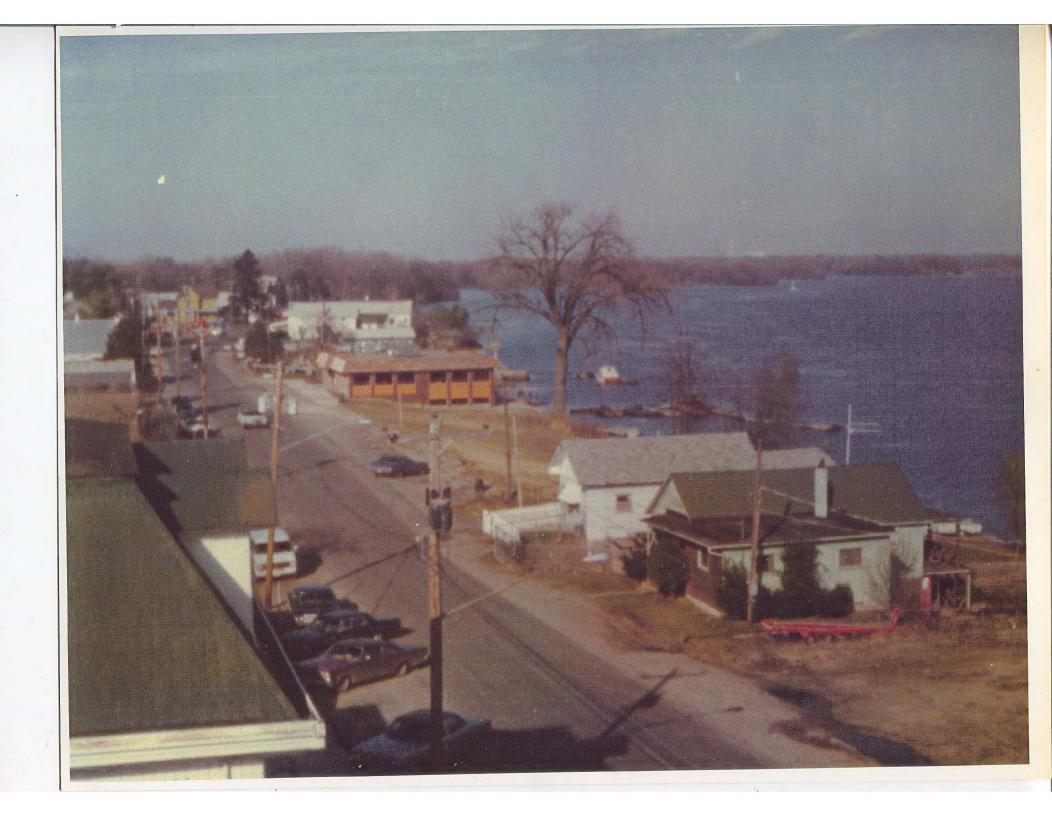
He was prhis parents.

Condelared

nephews, Gary Kosman, of Bettendorf, and Greg Kosman, of Texas; and a very special friend, Susan Filbrandt, of LeClaire, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Condolences may be left for the family by visiting Merlin's obituary at www.McGinnis-Chambers.com.



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7 Sections, 80 Pages

\$1.00 Home Delivery 58¢

# Princeton to plot course for Boll's

#### ■ City leaders set town meeting to plan building's future

#### By Brian Rathjen

NSP Staff Writer

Joyce Lund-Mears remembers the days when the upstairs of Boll's Store was the center of Princeton's social life.

The city's volunteer fire department hosted many dances, while younger children engaged in such things as roller skating and basketball. Churches would frequently host chicken suppers, while schools in the Princeton area held their school plays and musicals on the second-floor stage; both drew people from miles around.

"The Saturday night movies were just wonderful," she said, noting that people could get in for just a dime. "People would come from all over — McCausland and LeClaire. It (Boll's) was really the center of our community."

She and a group of Princeton community

leaders envision those bygone days living once again in the former grocery store's second floor.

Already, volunteers helped make the second floor access safe to use again. Now, a community meeting is planned to discuss the building's future and ways the complete facility may be used.

The meeting, described as a marketing strategy planning program for the total use of the building, will be at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 3 at the Boll's Community Center, 428 River Drive. Consultant Dick Hanzelka will be leading the meeting, helping residents shape the future of the building.

"I want the pros and cons of Boll's discussed," said Steve Suiter, president of Great River Bank & Trust. "One of the problems we have is a little bit of a hesitancy on the part of the (City Council) to commit to Boll's.

"We need to get the citizens who are behind Boll's to come forward and come up with a concise, recognizable plan to make Bolls'

BOLL'S

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A marketing, strategy and planning program will take place May 3 in Princeton to discuss the pros and cons of Boll's Community Center and shape the building's future.

NSP file photo

# Boll's: Town treasure 'needs to be opened'

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function and make it enconomically viable.

The Rev. Peter Sickels, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church and a member of the Boll's committee, compares Boll's to the gospel story in Matthew 5:14-15: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house."

"The community center of Boll's has never been marketed well," said Sickels, who contends some Princeton residents aren't even aware that the building is available for rent. "The second floor is a real treasure that used to be used regularly for things like theater, basketball, but it hasn't been used in nearly 30 years.

"It seems to me (some people) are hiding

a great treasure, and it needs to be opened to daylight and be used more."

Lund-Mears added, "We need a central point where children can have these good memories, conduct parties and meetings, and be loyal to the community in the future."

Boll's Store, the town's grocery and general merchandise store, closed in 1997, and its main floor was quickly transformed into a community center. It quickly became a popular site for graduation and wedding receptions, soup suppers and church events.

However, the second floor remained vacant, saddled with a rusting fire escape stairwell and a fire door that wouldn't work.

That's where community volunteers Tom Rogers and Norm Sandburg stepped in.

Sandburg brought his workers from IMG Steel Erectors to restore the wrought-iron fire escape to its original condition. Their work was donated as a gift to the city.

Rogers added his construction expertise to replace the unworkable door at the top of the fire escape. He also donated his labor and the door.

"This place needs to be used by youth and children — dancing, watching movies on a big screen for different age groups — and I hope this helps," he said.

The floor, said Sickels, is in sound condition, but efforts were needed to wipe off decades of dust and dirt from the hardwood floor. He added that the lights have protective mesh covering them, the floor-to-ceiling windows are covered with wooden grates, and the walls are covered with Seattle brick.

"It's really ready to go in so many ways,"

#### **Deciding on goals**

During the upcoming meeting, Hanzelka will lead residents in analyzing Boll's. Once strengths and possible roadblocks are determined, action groups will be formed to meet various goals.

Princeton City Council member Penelope Miller added another goal will determine whether the building is viable enough to spend up to \$100,000 on other needed upgrades, such as a sprinkler system and elevator. The building has an inside dance hall-style stairwell to the second floor that does not to be altered, she said, and it could accommodate a wheelchair lift.

Pizza will be served.

Mayor Keith Youngers, a Princeton native who remembers playing basketball in the upstairs of Boll's, said the goal is to make the entire building usable.

"We just want to see if it's worth moving forward and make the whole building more attractive," he said.

Sickels said that if things come to fruition, the building could be useful to many groups not just in Princeton, but the region. For instance, youth rock bands and performing corps such as Sheltered Reality could rent the upstairs portion of the building for concerts.

The group pointed out that more than 100 private donors, along with 25 corporate and 20 memorial gifts, gave birth to the community center. Now, it is poised to take the next critical steps into adolescence.

"There's been a lot of good intentions, but they've all seemed to go off in different ways," he said. "We just need to tie everything together and get everyone moving in the same direction."

#### Carbon monoxide kills rural LeClaire woman

An elderly rural LeClaire woman who was found dead inside her home succumbed to carbon monoxide poisoning.

That's the findings of a preliminary autopsy report regarding the death of 74-year-old Patsy Wiebel, who died at her home Sunday, April 15, at 22175 283rd Ave.

According to the Scott County Sheriff's Department, Wiebel and her husband had just returned to the area from their winter home a few days earlier and stayed at a hotel. The

next day, Mr. Wiebel became ill and went to the hospital.

Patsy Wiebel was found dead after her husband requested that a neighbor check on her well-being.

Tests at the scene indicated that the homehad high levels of carbon monoxide, and that the house had a faulty furnace. The investigation is still pending until the completion of tests, deputies said.

#### Walk raises funds for preeclampsia research

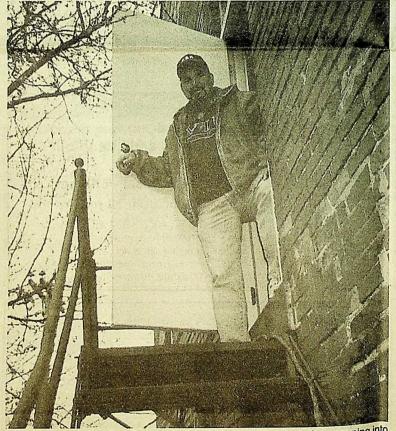
The Preeclampsia Foundation will hold its Third Annual Walk-a-Thon on Saturday, May 12 beginning at 9 a.m. at Centennial Park in Davenport.

The walk is held to raise money for the Preeclampsia Foundation for research and awareness of preeclampsia, a maternal and infant illness that can cause death. Sometimes called toxemia, the disorder affects both the mother and the fetus. It is characterized by elevated blood pressure, swelling, and protein in the urine, but its cause is still not fully understood.

Preeclampsia affects approximately 5-8 percent of pregnancies, and is responsible for about 18 percent of all maternal deaths.

The Walk-a-Thon will feature door prizes and a silent auction. Anne Garrett, a Washington state resident and founder of the Preeclampsia Foundation, will be the featured speaker.

To register online, go to: <a href="www.preeclamp-sia.org">www.preeclamp-sia.org</a>, or e-mail to <a href="walkforshelly@hotmail.com">walkforshelly@hotmail.com</a>. For more information, contact John Warner at (563) 284-6111.



Princeton volunteer Tom Rogers shows off the new fire escape door, opening into the second floor of Boll's Community Center. It was one of many improvements that have been made to the second floor recently.

Contributed photo